

Hafa Adai!

NMTI classes undergoing accreditation review. **PAGE 6**

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\$1

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXXI, Issue No. 143

www.saipantribune.com

WEDNESDAY JULY 21, 2021

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NMI still awaiting IRS' approval of plan for child tax payments

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Department of Finance is still waiting for the Internal Revenue Service's ap-

proval of the implementation plan for the advanced child tax credit payments to quali-

fied families, which explains why the checks have not been issued yet.

Speaking at radio press briefing Friday, Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig ac-

knowledge that the IRS has already started releasing ad-
See CHILD TAX on Page 4

Travel Bubble tourists arriving Sat.

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Travel Bubble—a dedicated travel corridor that will facilitate tourism travel between South Korea and the CNMI that has been in the works for many months now—will finally bring in its first batch of participants

this Saturday.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Priscilla Iakopo said the CNMI expects to see two flights on July 24 carrying the first batch of Travel Bubble participants.

The next flight after that is expected on July 29.

"We are still targeting July 24. ... We're expecting to have two flights and then, on July 29, we'll have another flight,"
See TRAVEL on Page 4

'FAM tour critical to Bubble's success'

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

The 40-plus group of YouTube influencers and media personnel that flew in last Saturday for a familiarization tour of the CNMI is very important for

the CNMI as this visit—ahead of a planned Travel Bubble
See FAM on Page 4

AT A GLANCE

As of 6:28pm, July 20, 2021

VACCINATIONS IN THE CNMI

Eligible Population
Fully Vaccinated: **69.1%**

Days since last community transmission **119**

Pfizer/BioNTech	
Initiated:	26,733
Fully Vaccinated:	24,820
Moderna	
Initiated:	4,239
Fully Vaccinated:	3,979
Janssen	
Fully vaccinated:	505

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	8,478	8	8,486
Recovered	8,273	15	8,288
Active	47	8	55
Deaths	142	1	143

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	188	0	188
Traced via Travel Screening	152	0	152
Traced via Community Screening	36	0	36
Deaths	2	0	2

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.

AUTOGRAPH TIME

Kareran Sirena writer Serenity Fujihara signs a copy of the book alongside fellow writers Emma Sablan and Arian Villagomez during the book's launch at Project Liffang last Saturday at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan. The book is a collaboration between the Lady Diann Torres Foundation and the Northern Mariana Islands Girl Scouts.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

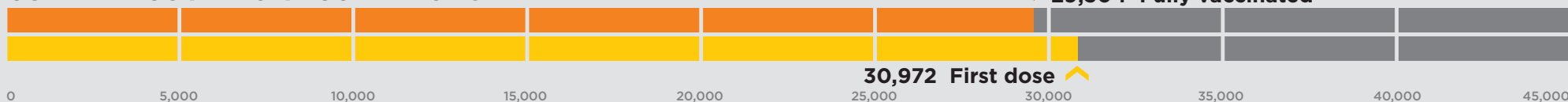
LEGEND:

- Red: Least safe
- Orange
- Yellow
- Blue
- Green: Safest

Source: Office of the Governor



CURRENT COVID-19 VACCINATIONS



INSIDE

LOCAL

Several military training exercises will take place over the next few months in Guam.

PAGE 12

NATION

The threat of thunderstorms and lightning has prompted officials in Oregon to ask for help.

PAGE 13

LIFE & STYLE

Halsey announces on Instagram on Monday that she has given birth to her first child.

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NMTI classes undergoing accreditation review

By JOSHUA SANTOS

joshua_santos@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The trade courses being offered at the Northern Marianas Technical Institute is right now undergoing review, with the hope of securing accreditation from the National Construction Center for Edu-

cation and Research.

According to NMTI interim chief executive Jodina Attao, Herbert "Bert" Johnston Jr., who is the education director of the Guam Contractors Association Trades Academy and an administrator for the NCCER, is on Saipan from July 19 to

» Switch to online testing by Aug. 1

22 to do a site visit. In those four days, Johnston will be reviewing a large portion of NMTI's courses, doing an audit of NMTI's student files, and training NMTI instructors on the NCCER's

online testing platform.

Attao shared details of Johnston's visit during NMTI's board of trustees special meeting last Thursday. She said Johnston will review NMTI's electrical; welding; carpentry; masonry; plumbing; and heating, ventilation, and air conditioning courses. Attao also said last Thursday that NMTI's automotive, culinary, and hotel and restaurant operations courses require

accreditation from different accrediting bodies.

Later on Tuesday, Attao told *Saipan Tribune* that Johnston's visit is "going great" so far, and explained that the NCCER—which used to conduct paper-based course testing for NMTI—will be transitioning to online testing effective Aug. 1, which is why Johnston will be training NMTI instructors on NCCER's online testing platform.

The NCCER is a not-for-

profit education foundation created in 1996 that provides course accreditation and testing services for thousands of trade schools and programs across the United States.

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YOUNG AUTHORS' SUPPORTERS

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, standing left, Lt. Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, standing right, first lady Diann Torres, standing second from left, and Wella Palacios, standing second from right, pose with young authors Aria Villagomez, Emma Sablan, and Serenity Fujihira, who wrote *Kareran Sirena*, the latest book under the Lady Diann Torres Foundation's Language and Literacy Young Author's Program.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

'Family Fun Night' today postponed due to weather

Due to heavy rain and flooding in the area near the San Vicente Youth Center, the CNMI Office of Youth Affairs announced on its Facebook page on Tuesday that its "Family Fun Night"—originally scheduled for today, Wednesday, from 5pm to 8pm—is postponed until further notice. Further updates on the event can be found on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/cnmityouthaffairs>.

The event was set to feature games, prizes throughout the evening, food vendors, and live entertainment for parents and their children alike to enjoy. OYA also promoted that the first 30 children to complete what it called its "event passport" would have received special prizes. (Joshua Santos)

NMC to host free info session on July 28

Northern Marianas College is informing all community members who are interested in advancing their careers and furthering their education to attend NMC's free information session on Wednesday, July 28, 2021. In addition to the admission process, college personnel will talk about the new vaccination requirements for students taking in-person classes for the fall 2021 semester.

The info session will be held from 5:30pm to 6:30pm at NMC's Olympio T. Borja Library in Building O. As part of NMC's COVID-19 safety protocols, participants are asked to wear masks or face coverings when on campus.

Participants of the info session will qualify to have their application fee and their placement test fees waived for NMC's upcoming fall 2021 semester—a savings of about \$75.

The first day of classes will be on Aug. 16, 2021. Interested applicants are encouraged to apply now to register for courses and for financial aid. Currently, up to \$6,495 is available in federal financial aid to qualified students.

For more information, contact the NMC Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6768/6769/6771 or visit www.marianas.edu. (NMC)

Free FBI training on preparing for threats from IEDs, hazmat

TAMUNING, Guam—The Federal Bureau of Investigation is offering specialized training to provide advanced understanding of the hazards posed by improvised explosives and potentially dangerous chemicals.

The "Chemical Industry Outreach Workshop" is intended for both Guam and CNMI public safety officials, law enforcement partners and people who work in the chemical industry. This includes suppliers of pool chemicals, beauty supplies and home improvement materials.

The workshop will include a classroom presentation and an outdoor explosive demonstration on the effects of conventional and improvised explosives. The training will underscore the potential dangers of particular chemicals, both in the hands of terrorists as well as juvenile experimenters.

The one-day workshop will be offered on both Wednesday, Aug. 25, and Thursday, Aug. 26, in Mangilao.

There is no cost to attend, but there is limited seating. Those interested in attending should submit their name, workshop date preference, telephone number and email address, company/agency name and job title to Guam-Outreach@fbi.gov. (PR)

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Camacho recuses self from Laniyo case

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**
kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho has recused himself from hearing the motion for a new trial for Stacey Laniyo, a woman who was recently found guilty of child abuse over the death of a 3-year-old boy.

Camacho stated in his recusal order that, although the defense motion for a new trial focuses on the actions and conduct of the prosecutor, he is concerned that there may be a con-

flict in him vacating the jury's verdict because one of the jury members is his brother.

"The conflict touches upon this concern: the defendant's motion for a new trial would require to, in effect, vacate the jury's verdict," he said.

Camacho noted in his order that the conflict only arises in the defendant's motion for a new trial but rest of the case is unaffected.

Camacho returned the matter to Presiding Judge Roberto C. Naraja for reassignment to another judge on either just the defendant's motion

for a new trial, or the entire case, including the defendant's motion for a new trial.

According to *Saipan Tribune* archives, back in June, Laniyo was found guilty by a jury of one count of child abuse but now, she is alleging that she did not receive a fair trial because of prosecutorial misconduct.

On June 24, 2021, Camacho remanded Laniyo to the custody of the Department of Corrections after her conviction.

Laniyo, through her attorney, Mark Scoggins, filed a motion for a new

trial last July 1, stating that a new trial is warranted because of what he claimed as the "pervasive, egregious, intentional, unethical, and irresponsible" prosecutorial misconduct that permeated every aspect of the trial, robbing Laniyo of her right to due process under the U.S. and CNMI Constitution.

Laniyo and her partner, Lynn Fitial,

were arrested following the death of a 3-year-old boy in March 2020. The boy was the adopted son of Fitial and was in the care of Laniyo.

According to the prosecution, Laniyo hit the boy with a tree branch, a broom, or her hand or by biting him.

As for Fitial, the prosecution said she failed to provide medical care for the boy resulting in his death.

Scheduled power service interruptions in parts of northern Saipan on Saturday

Parts of northern Saipan will experience power interruptions from 5am to 5:30am and from 11:30am to noon on Saturday, July 24, to allow the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. to replace two rotten power poles, replace airbrake switches, and lift sagging power lines in Lower Base.

The specific areas that will experience the two scheduled outages on Saturday are Lower Base, a portion of the north side of Sadog Tasi, government offices, Capital Hill, As Quina, Mt. Tapochao, Talofoto, I-Deni, Agag, As Teo, Papago, and Kagman 1 to 4. The two traffic lights near the Mobil gas stations in Sadog Tasi and Kagman will be affected by the scheduled outages as well.

According to CUC, the purpose of

the outages is to allow for work on a project near CUC's Power Plant 1. Two rotted power poles in the area will be replaced with concrete poles, two defective airbrake switches will be replaced, and sagging primary lines will be lifted.

Airbrake switches are used to turn on and off the power supply of certain parts of an overhead power transmission line. Primary lines are the power lines that transport high-voltage electricity from an electricity substation to a pole's transformer.

For more information, call the CUC hotline at 236-4333 and/or monitor CUC's official Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation>.

(Joshua Santos)

Receipt shows Torres purchased Home Depot tools worth \$817

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

In the continuation of the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee investigation into the expenses of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, the committee presented yesterday a receipt from Home Depot in Guam, where Torres bought \$817 worth of outdoor garden items or tools using cash on Nov. 11, 2017, and then had the amount reimbursed, describing the items as for his office's operations.

Rep. Christina E. Sablan (D-Saipan) showed a copy of the receipt to special assistant for administration Mathilda A. Rosario, who was on her third day of testimony in the investigation.

Rosario testified yesterday through a new interpreter, Donald Mendiola. Viola Alepuyo was seated next to Rosario as her counsel.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the House chamber at about 4:15pm, Rosario was still testifying about Torres' memo request for reimbursement dated May 3, 2016, to then-Finance secretary Larrisa Larson.

The memo sought reimbursement in the amount of \$3,209 for various electronic items. The memo states it's for office equipment as supplies for the medical referral office in Hawaii.

JGO chair Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) said the Home Depot receipt showed that Torres went to Guam and bought garden outdoor items on Nov. 11, 2017, which was a Saturday and Veterans Day, a holiday. Rosario testified that she did not see the purchased items at the governor's office.

Rep. Edwin K. Propst (D-Saipan) said he finds "interesting" the items that Torres bought during his "shopping spree."

"What's interesting [are] the items



Atty. Viola Alepuyo talks to her client, special assistant for administration Mathilda A. Rosario, during the latter's continuation of her testimony yesterday before the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations. JGO chaired by Rep. Celina R. Babauta (D-Saipan) is investigating Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' travels and expenses.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

he purchased," Propst said. "So this receipt, it says these items for office operations."

Propst said what he does not understand is that Torres went to Guam and that some of the items he purchased were a 5-lb pick, a 2.5-lb pick, a lopper, which is a garden tool to cut branches; a chainsaw, and a bush cutter. He pointed out that all these items, including a wheelbarrow, can be purchased at any hardware stores on Saipan.

"The governor is an extremely busy man. But somehow he finds time to purchase these items that are common and can be found on Saipan on every hardware store," he said.

Besides buying these items in Guam and then bringing them back to Saipan for office operations, Propst said there has to be somebody other than the governor who could buy these items and pick them up from hardware stores on Saipan. "These purchases that were made... I'm also wondering how it was brought back to Saipan," he said.

For example, he said, the gas chainsaw—as normally from his experience, if something has any gas or anything in it—would have to be brought by service or by boat.

"So by any chance do you know how these items were brought back to Saipan?" Propst asked.

"I don't know, honestly," said Rosario, through the interpreter.

Propst said he find it "very odd" that Torres has the time to go shopping and buy all these equipment allegedly for office operations.

"He goes to Guam, purchases these items, brings these back to Saipan for office operations when clearly every single one of these items can be purchased easily on Saipan," Propst said. "This just something like... this is very confusing!"

Sablan noted that the day of the purchase was a holiday being Veterans Day and that the items were paid in cash, according to the receipt.

Sablan said Rosario also testified that she did not see those items in the inventory based on her review of the inventory list. Sablan said Rosario is not clear whether the wheelbarrow is in the governor's office.

Rosario also testified that she does not know if Torres was on official business in Guam when he went shopping at Home Depot on a holiday, because it was not during her time.

tors visit the islands of Rota and Tinian.

Iakopo said the over 40 FAM Tour participants will stay for as long as 14 days to experience what the CNMI has to offer and, in turn, share their experiences with their respective media platforms to entice more people to jump on CNMI's Travel Bubble.

"They will be quarantined at [Pacific Islands Club] for the first five days and after [after passing the CNMI's COVID-19 test], they will be staying at Kensington Hotel. These participants will be here for at least seven days, the majority will be here for 14 days to give them an opportunity to experience the islands of Rota and Tinian," she said.

since COVID-19," she said.

Although the CNMI welcomed a group visitors last weekend, they were paid for by MVA as part of a Familiarization Tour—or FAM tour—to promote the CNMI's travel bubble on social media platforms and media sites in South Korea.

This group of incoming Travel Bubble participants are tourist who are paying to visit the CNMI on their own.

According to Iakopo, MVA helped organize the FAM Tour. They were flown in by a chartered Asiana Airlines flight. MVA had set aside a budget of \$460,000 for the airlines, hotels, sights and tours, and to also have these visi-

CHILD TAX

From Page 1

vanced child monthly payments in the U.S. mainland but, similar to the last three federal stimulus payments, the CNMI is a few weeks behind the U.S. mainland.

And it's not just in the CNMI, Atalig said, but for all American territories, so those in Guam, American Samoa, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands also need to have their implementation plans approved and agreed first between the government, the tax office and the IRS.

"We have yet to receive the draft plan," Atalig said.

FAM

From Page 1

between Saipan and South Korea—will jumpstart the whole tourism industry, according to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

Speaking at a radio press briefing last Friday, Torres said the tour program—referred to in the travel industry as a FAM tour—is critical as the CNMI will be starting the travel bubble program at the end of this month.

"We have actually key partners, stakeholders of the agencies, as well as other business partners that are coming in this FAM tour," he said.

The governor said the government will make sure that the FAM tour program—an initiative of the Marianas Visitors Authority—goes smoothly and seamlessly.

He hopes the FAM tour participants will have a great experience so that they will have positive words about the CNMI and share their experiences here when they go back to their country. That way, the CNMI will have a good package to sell and not just for Saipan, but Rota and Tinian as well, he added. "So that's very

exciting and we look forward to that. I hope that we can grace them with open arms and offer assistance in any way that we can," Torres said.

He urged people to continue to be hospitable and showcase what they have here in the CNMI.

The CNMI's first group of tourists arrived at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport last Saturday afternoon—more than a year since the CNMI closed its borders to tourists due to COVID-19 pandemic.

MVA and Commonwealth Ports Authority's officials and staff welcomed the members of the FAM Tour with warm *hafa adai* and *tirow* greetings at the airport.

In the FAM Tour are about 40 travel agents, YouTubers and other social media influencers, and a film crew.

The CNMI and South Korea established a Travel Bubble that took effect on July 1, 2021 when Torres and Vice Minister Seong-Kyo Hwang of the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport of the Republic of Korea signed the agreement. The agreement facilitates the resumption of air travel between the CNMI and South Korea during the pandemic.

TRAVEL

From Page 1

she said.

Iakopo said that, as of last Saturday, close to 60 participants have already confirmed their participation in the CNMI Travel Bubble. Three South Korean airlines have been approved for the Travel Bubble: Asiana Airlines, Jeju Air, and T'way Air.

"From what I know, we have been told that there are already confirmed passengers for these flights. I don't have the exact number, but I believe we have close to 60 at this point. These will be our first actual international visitors

44 establishments pass EHDP inspections with Grade A rating

All retail, eating, and drinking establishments that the Environmental Health Disease Prevention of the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. inspected in June passed all inspection metrics, with 44 establishments getting the highest possible Grade A rating.

This means no establishment was ordered closed for serious violations of health and sanitation standards.

The agency conducted 177 sanitary inspections on retail, eating, and drinking establishments, and 15 COVID-19 protocol inspections.

Classifications for Food Safety Rating:

- 90-100 Grade A
- 80-89 Grade B
- 70-79 Grade C
- > 69 Closure/Suspension

GRADE A

1. Pacific Islands Club, San Antonio

- Main Kitchen
- Employees Cafeteria
- Magellan Restaurant
- Bakery
- Charley Disco Bar
- Beach Side Restaurant
- Galley Coffee Shop

- Isla Restaurant
- Seaside Grill
- Buoy Bar
- 2. Dolphin Restaurant, Garapan
- 3. Susupe Mobil Retail, Susupe
- 4. McDonald's Restaurant, Chalan Laulau
- 5. McDonald's Restaurant, Garapan
- 6. Korean Restaurant Jan Won, Garapan
- 7. Star Sands Wholesale, Chalan Laulau
- 8. Yong Hao Market, Koblerville
- 9. Cha Café & Bistro, Garapan
- 10. Abygnale's BBQ Stand, Koblerville
- 11. Oleai Beach Bar & Grill, San Jose
- 12. Charing's Kitchen, Koblerville
- 13. LJ's I Market, Gualo Rai
- 14. Ever Clean Mini Mart, Dandan
- 15. Garapan Farmer's Market, Garapan
- 16. Global Wholesale, As Lito
- 17. Midnight Karaoke, San Jose
- 18. M&M Fish Mart, Garapan

- pan
- 19. Barney's Pizza, Susupe
- 20. ABC Store 702, Garapan
- 21. Winchell's Donut, Chalan Laulau
- 22. MARPAC Wholesale, Gualo Rai
- 23. DFS Gift Shop, Airport
- 24. DFS Gift Shop, Garapan
- 25. Terry's Snack Bar, Chalan Kanoa
- 26. Ming Ming Market, Susupe
- 27. Uni Catering, Chalan Laulau
- 28. Vegetables Plus, Navy Hill
- 29. Godfather's Bar & Restaurant, Garapan
- 30. New Manna Rice Cake,

- San Vicente
- 31. Cery Store, Fina Sisu
- 32. Casa Urashima Restaurant, Garapan
- 33. Kinpachi Restaurant, Garapan
- 34. Aqua Water, San Antonio
- 35. R&J Retail, Garapan
- 36. Gold Ribbon Restaurant and Bake Shop, Chalan Piao
- 37. Pizza Hut Restaurant, Gualo Rai
- 38. Galaxy Snack Bar, Chalan Kanoa
- 39. East Moon Restaurant, Kensington Hotel, San Roque
- 40. Marianas Water, Papago
- 41. Roberto's Café, Airport
- 42. Herman's Modern Bakery, Garapan

- ery Retail, Garapan
- 43. Herman's Modern Bakery, Airport Road
- Tan Marikita's Café
- Catering
- Bakery
- 44. Saipan World Resort Hotel, Susupe
- Oasis Lounge
- Sunset Beach Bar
- The Buffet World
- Bakery
- Jungle Stage
- Tapochao Restaurant
- Royal Taga Hall
- Employees Cafeteria
- Sun Flower Banquet Hall
- Myung Ga Korean Restaurant
- Main Kitchen

GRADE B

- 1. Ling Lin Store, Kagman
- 2. Winner's Restaurant, Afetna
- 3. Eden Restaurant, Garapan
- 4. C-Market, Chalan Kanoa
- 5. Rong Hui Market, Chalan Kanoa
- 6. Fubang Restaurant, Chalan Kanoa
- 7. Advance Store, Afetna

GRADE C

- 1. Grotto Restaurant, Garapan

For more information, contact the EHDP office at (670) 664-4870/72/73, or email EHDP director John Tagabuel at john.tagabuel@dph.gov.mp. (PR)

CNMI DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
ITB NO.: ITB21-DOF/OIT-134

SUBMISSION DATE: AUGUST 09, 2021 TIME: 09:00 A.M.

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/S/ DAVID DLG. ATALIG
SECRETARY OF FINANCE

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, PS

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COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)
RFP21-CHCC-HIT-001

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 9, 2021 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

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/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORAZON P. ADA
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ)
RFQ21-CHCC-ELC-002

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: AUGUST 9th, 2021 TIME: 4:30PM (CHST)

"PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR INDEFINITE DELIVERY INDEFINITE QUANTITY (IDIQ) INFORMATICS ANALYSIS"

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.GOV.MP]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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Public warned of possible flash floods

A developing monsoon pattern will bring periods of heavy rain across the Marianas the next few days. Torrential rains could lead to flash flooding in low-lying and poor-drainage areas on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Based on information received from the National Weather Service in Guam and compiled at the CNMI Emergency Operations Center-State Warning Point, a flash flood watch is in effect through Thursday afternoon.

Heavy showers and thunderstorms associated with

the monsoon will affect the islands the next few days. Rainfall of 3 to 5 inches with locally heavier amounts are possible through Thursday.

Residents of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota are being advised to turn around and not risk driving through flooded roads. Most flood deaths occur in vehicles. Be aware of your surroundings and report observed flooding to local emergency services or law enforcement and request they pass this information to the National Weather Service when you can do so safely. (PR)

Jehovah's Witnesses holds global virtual event

Breaking from a century-old tradition in the name of health and safety, Jehovah's Witnesses worldwide is moving its annual in-person convention to a virtual format for the second time in as many years, canceling nearly 6,000 conventions in 240 lands.

In years past, Jehovah's Witnesses in the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota distributed special convention invitations to the public welcoming them to attend the program. In 2020, the pandemic interrupted that tradition, forcing the organization to cancel in-person conventions throughout the

PROGRAM DAY	DATE AVAILABLE FOR STREAMING OR DOWNLOAD FROM JW.ORG	DATES CONGREGATIONS AROUND THE GLOBE WILL UNITEDLY BE VIEWING THE PROGRAM
Friday Morning	June 28	July 3-4
Friday Afternoon	July 5	July 10-11
Saturday Morning	July 19	July 24-25
Saturday Afternoon	July 26	July 31-August 1
Sunday Morning	August 9	August 14-15
Sunday Afternoon	August 16	August 21-22

world and launch a global virtual event. This was a first for Jehovah's Witnesses, which has held public conventions in stadiums, arenas, convention centers, and theaters around

the world since 1897.

"Powerful by Faith!" is the theme of the 2021 global event, which will be delivered in more than 500 languages to households throughout the globe over six weekends this July and August, uniting some 15 million to 20 million people in 240 countries. Since the convention is typically held from Friday through Sunday, the program will be available in six installments corresponding to morning and afternoon sessions. "Friday" morning's session will be available for streaming or download beginning last June 28, 2021.

Jehovah's Witnesses congregations around the world

are inviting the public to join them in this historic occasion.

"Faith has helped our global brotherhood to continue to thrive even during a pandemic," said Bart Waller for Jehovah's Witnesses. "Our faith will continue to unite us in worship—even virtually—as millions gather in private homes around the world to enjoy a powerful and inspiring spiritual program."

All are invited to attend the event by going to JW.ORG on the web or JW Broadcasting on the free JW Library iOS or Android App, or on streaming platforms like ROKU TV, Apple TV, and others. The program is free and accessible to all. (PR)

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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp | Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.net

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

NMHC RFP 2021-015

BID SUBMISSION DATE & TIME: August 23, 2021, 10:00 a.m.

**"Financial and Compliance Audits
For Fiscal Years Ending
September 30, 2021 and 2022"**

The Proposal Packet is available on July 21, 2021 at the NMHC website at www.nmhc.gov.net by clicking on the "Procurement Tab".

Inquiries regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing to Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net or submitted via facsimile to (670)234-9021, no later than 10:00 A.M. local time on July 28, 2021.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held via video teleconferencing on July 28, 2021, 2:00 p.m. through Zoom Video Communications. Offerors will be provided the video teleconferencing link on the NMHC website at www.nmhc.gov.net. We request from offerors to submit a notice via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net of their intent to participate in the mandatory pre-proposal conference at least (1) day before the conference.

The provisions of the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/9447 or via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/
Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC)

/s/
Merced "Marcie" M. Tomokane
Chairwoman
NMHC Board of Directors

VACCINATION FOR EDUCATION

HAVE YOU GOTTEN YOUR COVID-19 VACCINE YET?

In our efforts to return to face-to-face classes beginning the School-Year 2021-2022, the **Public School System is HIGHLY RECOMMENDING** for students **12 years old and above** to **GET VACCINATED** before the **FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**.

First day of school is on August 18, 2021.

Vaccinated students will have the chance to win \$500 cash prizes and smartphones with free one-year contracts.

What You Need to Do: Students who completed their COVID-19 vaccination record cards must submit them to their School Registrars by August 17, 2021 before noon to be entered into the raffle.

Winners will be announced on the PSS social media official pages (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter) on August 18, 2021.

www.cnmipss.org

**I have received mine.
When will you receive yours?**

Where will I go to get vaccinated?

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- **Wednesday** — 8 am to 5:30 pm (last call)
- **Thursday** — 8 am to 5:30 pm (last call)

SAIPAN

- **Grace Christian Academy**
Wednesday, July 21 (Ages 12 and over)
9 am to 3 pm (last call)
- **Northern Marianas College**
Thursday, July 22/ Friday, July 23/ Saturday, July 24
9 am to 3 pm (last call)

ROTA

- **Rota Health Center**
Thursday, July 22 (Ages 12-17)
8 am to 10:30 am (last call)

FOR REGISTRATION & MORE INFORMATION
Please visit vaccinatecnmi.com or call (670) 682-SHOT (7468)



Opinion

Hafa Adail

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXXI, Issue No. 143Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
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EDITORIAL

Is the US finally taking cyberattacks seriously?

We're barely a month out from the Colonial Pipeline hacking, perpetrated by the Russian-speaking hacking group DarkSide, which left thousands of Americans without gas, preventing many from accessing food or medicine. Not long after that was the attack on JBS, the world's largest meat supplier, which shut down multiple processing plants, perpetrated by Russian cybercriminal group REvil.

Two weeks ago, REvil hacked Kaseya, a U.S.-based software company, which affected 800 to 1,500 businesses. One of these businesses, Coop, a Swedish grocer, will take weeks to recover after the hacking shut down 800 of its physical storefronts. Coop paid \$70 million to appease the criminals. The ripples also affected Leonardtown, Md., as city administrators lost all access to their systems.

How has President Joe Biden addressed the problem? After the Colonial Pipeline attack, he declared an executive order, calling for collaboration between the public and private sectors to iron out digital defense issues—and we learned the hard way that it will take more than that to deal with this crisis. Then, Biden addressed the issue at a summit with Putin. The attacks have continued.

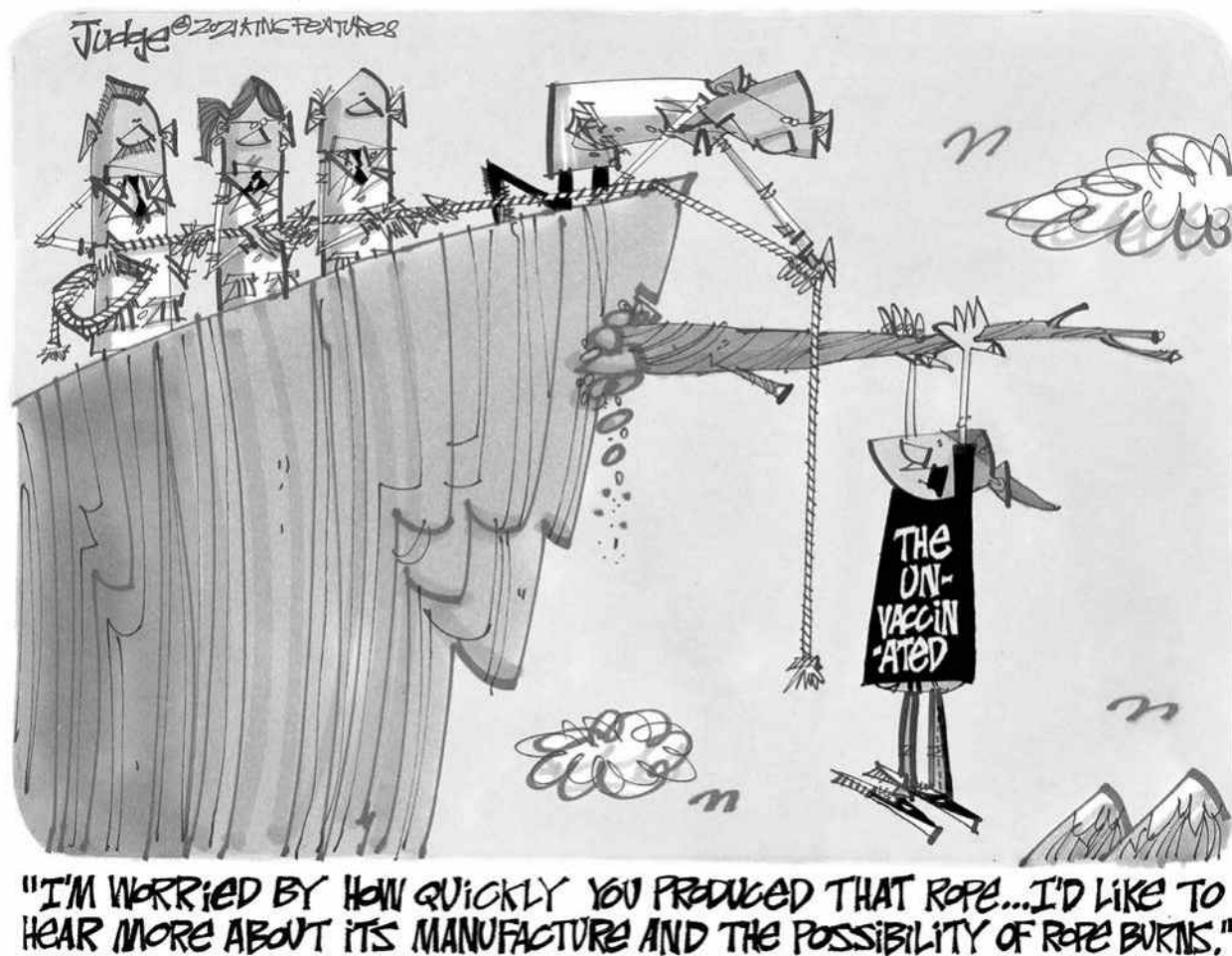
Most recently, Biden called Putin and “reiterated that the United States will take any necessary action to defend its people and its critical infrastructure in the face of this continuing challenge.” When asked at a press conference if there would be consequences, Biden responded, “Yes.”

We needed to set some clear boundaries—some definite consequences that would get Vladimir Putin's attention—and, from what little we know, it looks like we might have succeeded in that. Once Biden called out Putin on the issue one-on-one, hacking giant REvil disappeared. Hacking collectives have an agenda. The cybersecurity company Cyberreason reports that the ransomware these hackers are installing first scans a computer's installed languages for Russian, Ukrainian, Syrian Arabic and others that are native to Russian-allied countries. If the computer has one installed, the ransomware stops dead in its tracks.

In mid-June, cybersecurity became a principal topic of the summit between Biden and Putin. In a press conference, Biden said that he gave a list to Putin listing “16 specific entities; 16 defined as critical infrastructure under U.S. policy” which are “off-limits to attack.” He followed this comment saying, “Of course, the principle is one thing. It has to be backed up by practice. Responsible countries need to take action against criminals who conduct ransomware activities on their territory.”

We would add that responsible countries also take firm action when their citizens are endangered. We remember Biden saying in February, “I made it clear to President Putin, in a manner very different from my predecessor, that

See US on Next Page



Get used to them: Face masks will be around for a while yet

In the U.K., July 19 is being called Freedom Day. To some, it will feel a bit like England winning the Euros. After 15-plus months of setbacks, uncertainty and constraints on everyday life, there will be something to celebrate: Brits can congregate without restriction and are free to bin or burn their face masks if they want. Masking up will no longer be required in public spaces or even on public transport.

But everything we know about this virus suggests proceeding with caution. Keeping a mask mandate in certain crowded settings costs little and can help reduce virus transmission, especially going into the autumn and winter. It would also reinforce a culture of safety. Instead, mask-wearing is likely to become more politicized.

It's fine to take the calculated risk that restrictions can be lifted. As my colleague Sam Fazeli has noted, at least the government has kept the door open to reimposing some restrictions. But to talk about “freedom” is to tempt fate. Britain still has one of the highest COVID-19 infection rates, with a 51% increase in hospital admissions in the seven days to July 4. One-third of adults are not yet fully vaccinated.

Hospitals are also struggling with gargantuan backlogs of surgeries and other treatments, a growing stream of COVID-19 patients and high rates of burnout among doctors and other staff. One teaching hospital in Leeds recently had to cancel major cancer surgeries because the rising COVID-19 workload has had knock-on effects. And this is happening during the summer, typically a quieter season for the NHS.

On Wednesday, medical journal The Lancet published an article by 100 top scientists arguing that the government is “embarking on a dangerous and unethical experiment” in the wholesale lifting of restrictions on July 19. Such a move, they write, will allow unmitigated virus transmission, especially among unvaccinated children and young people, that will likely accelerate when schools reopen in the fall.

By THERESE RAPHAEL
Bloomberg Opinion

Therese Raphael is a columnist for Bloomberg Opinion. She was editorial page editor of the Wall Street Journal Europe.



They warn that the government's strategy will also encourage the emergence of new vaccine-resistant variants, placing both the U.K.'s progress and the global fight against COVID-19 at risk. Deprived communities will be more exposed, as they have been throughout, deepening inequalities.

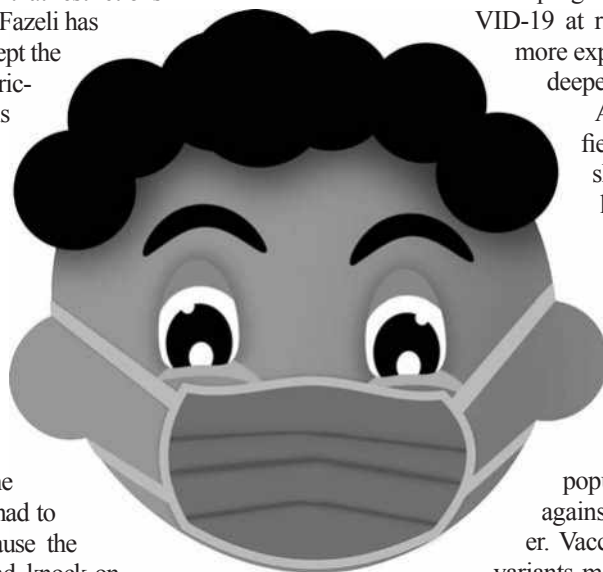
Although the government is justified in lifting some restrictions—data show the link between infection and hospitalization rates (and deaths) has weakened—the current policy is short-sighted and likely to lead to U-turns.

There is every possibility that SARS-CoV-2 becomes a recurrent seasonal disease. Theoretically, herd immunity can be reached when 70% to 90% of the population have sufficient antibodies against the virus, but in practice it's harder. Vaccines aren't perfectly effective, new variants may overcome resistance and it's unclear how long immunity lasts.

That means we will need a menu of baseline measures to control infections, both because the pressure on the NHS (already strained before the pandemic hit) will remain too high and because the prevalence of “long COVID” is a powerful argument for still trying to reduce transmission even when hospitalizations have fallen.

Some measures with little or no evidence of effectiveness—think Perspex screens and scanning QR codes when you enter a restaur-

See FACE MASKS on Next Page



EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Joe Biden's Afghan withdrawal folly

Barely a day passes without additional news of Taliban gains in Afghanistan.

Perhaps the Afghan government and its forces will prove more resilient than many expect, but if the country continues its slide toward chaos or, worse, the Taliban rapidly take Kabul, President Joe Biden's decision to withdraw a residual U.S. force will look like an amateurish, unforced error by a man who prides himself on his foreign policy experience and acumen.

With his top military leadership opposed and credible warnings that Kabul could fall within months after a withdrawal, Biden went ahead with it anyway on the basis of what an aide has called "his gut."

So far, indications are that the president would have been better off heeding his military advisers than his viscera.

The Afghan war has, of course, stretched on for two decades and become a holding action satisfying to no one. But the cost to the U.S. of sustaining 3,500 troops in the country without losing anyone in combat for more than a year hasn't been high compared with the entirely plausible downside of Islamist extremists allied with al-Qaeda sweeping to power again in Afghanistan.

The desire to pull out of Afghanistan has been an area of rare Biden-Trump agreement. Then-President Donald Trump's foolhardy ceasefire deal with the Taliban in February 2020 set the predicate for Biden's withdrawal. It would have taken some determination for Biden to reverse the U.S. promise in that deal to

withdraw its forces by May 2021, although the Taliban's transparent bad faith provided plenty of occasion for it.

Biden says not to worry. The U.S. will continue to provide "over the horizon" support, i.e., from a distance, for the Afghan government.

This is likely a pipe dream, and nothing about Biden's poorly thought-out drawdown lends any more credibility to it.

The CIA has been struggling to figure out how to maintain intelligence-gathering capabilities in Afghanistan. There will be no targets to strike from "over the horizon" if we don't have the assets on the ground to find them.

Ideally, the U.S. would locate some other base next door to Afghanistan, but there are no good options in the neighborhood.

Conducting operations from the Persian Gulf eight hours away isn't much of a substitute. In congressional testimony, Gen. Kenneth McKenzie, the head of Central Command, said the long-distance missions would be "extremely difficult to do," but "not impossible."

The U.S. withdrawal has had other troubling loose ends.

The contractors who have worked with the Afghan Air Force to maintain its planes are leaving, too, potentially stripping Afghan forces of air support.

The fate of the Afghans who have assisted U.S. forces is uncertain, although under political pressure here at home, Biden has committed to getting them out.

Biden wants to provide \$3 billion in security assistance to the

By **RICH LOWRY**

King Features Synd., Inc.



Rich Lowry is editor of the National Review.

Afghans, but who will do the training with that money?

The allies are leaving, with the administration anxious to get the Turks to stay to secure Kabul International Airport, without which we won't be able to maintain our embassy.

As the bad news has piled up, the Biden administration has tried to provide reassuring signals. But are the Afghans, and the Taliban, not supposed to notice that nearly all of his forces have already withdrawn?

One justification for leaving is that it will free up resources for us to concentrate on the growing threat from China. It's not as though the 3,000 ground troops are going to relocate to East Asia, though, and make a difference in the balance of power there. On top of this, if there is an unraveling in Afghanistan, controlling the fallout will become a consuming issue for the U.S. military.

Biden has gotten his drawdown. Now, he may reap the whirlwind.

A free Cuba at last?

After six decades of communist rule, thousands of angry Cubans have taken to the streets, demanding freedom and calling for communist President Miguel Diaz-Canel to step down. Their message is straightforward: "Basta!"

Enough of living in near poverty. Enough of being denied the most basic human rights. Enough of broken promises and abandoned dreams. Enough of COVID-19 and no vaccine.

Communist police are using tear gas and arresting Cuban demonstrators, but the regime is facing an existential crisis reminiscent of 1989 in Eastern Europe and the open rebellion of people behind the Iron Curtain.

In January of that year, East Germany's communist boss boasted that the Berlin Wall would stand for another 100 years. In November, the wall came tumbling down under the pressure exerted by the East German and other captive peoples, no longer willing to accept Communist rule.

The present-day Cuban demonstrations are a logical outcome of communist Cuba's long-standing indifference to the life of the Cuban people. Consider these facts.

—From 1959 through the late 1990s, more than 100,000 Cubans were placed in forced labor camps and prisons, including the infamous Presidio Modelo on the Island of Pines. Between 15,000 and 17,000 people were shot, more than a few at the hand of Che Guevara. Fidel Castro justified his reign of terror with these words: "The revolution is all; everything else is nothing."

—Communist Cuba exported Marxism-Leninism throughout Latin America, in Colombia, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Venezuela. A special target was the small island nation of Grenada,

which was to function as the third leg of a communist triangle of Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela.

—Communist Cuba often provided the ground troops for the Soviet Union's strategy of inciting Third World revolution, especially in Africa. For example, Castro sent a force of 50,000 men to Angola.

—Communist Cuba brought the world to the brink of nuclear war in 1962 when it allowed the Soviets to build sites for offensive nuclear missiles aimed at major cities in the United States. Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev said that Castro requested a Soviet nuclear attack on the United States.

At this possible tipping point in Cuba, what should be the U.S. response? President Joe Biden has said he wants to restore America's moral leadership around the globe. He has been given a golden opportunity to do so next week.

Since 1959, every U.S. president from Dwight Eisenhower to Barack Obama has issued a Captive Nations Proclamation, condemning communist tyranny and pledging America's support of those captive peoples yearning to be free.

It so happens that there are still five communist regimes in the world: China, North Korea, Vietnam, Laos—and Cuba. But the White House is said to be thinking of replacing the Captive Nations phrase for "Free and Open Societies Week."

FACE MASKS

From Page 8

rant—can probably go. Masking, however, should remain for now, at least in certain settings such as public transport and large events.

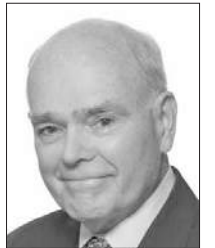
Masks were adopted en masse to prevent wearers from transmitting the virus to others. Face coverings are likely to be 50% to 90% effective for smaller aerosol particles and greater for large droplets, says one paper from government scientific advisers (though much depends on the quality of the mask and the fit). The U.S. Centers for Disease Control also recommends masks in certain settings and notes evidence that they offer some protection for the wearer.

Even Israel—where experts had been claiming herd immunity—has restored its indoor mask requirement after a rise in COVID-19 cases. New Zealand, which has near-zero COVID-19 infections, has also kept measures such as mask-wearing in place to reduce the impact of outbreaks.

Unfortunately, it seems inevitable that wearing masks will get caught up in the culture wars in Britain, as they have in America. So far, that hasn't been the case, probably because the policy in

By **LEE EDWARDS**

The Heritage Foundation



Lee Edwards, Ph.D., is the Distinguished Fellow in Conservative Thought in the B. Kenneth Simon Center for Principles and Politics at The Heritage Foundation (heritage.org). His many books include biographies of Ronald Reagan, Barry Goldwater and William F. Buckley Jr.

While such a change would probably please George Soros—whose own vehicles for destabilizing other countries are called "Open Society Foundations"—and other progressives, it would sorely disappoint the brave Cuban dissidents who are standing up to Cuba's communist rulers.

The bipartisan Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation has got in right, urging Biden to demonstrate the commitment of the United States to promoting liberty and human rights by issuing "a strong 2021 Captive Nations Week proclamation." All who support freedom should second VOC's motion.

the U.K. was clear and Britons tend to follow the rules. July 19 changes that equation. Two-thirds of Britons told pollsters they plan to keep wearing masks, but that could quickly change when others aren't and if some politicians openly disdain the practice.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson—always wise to the public pulse and keen to burnish his libertarian credentials—has made "personal responsibility" the new watchword. The government is happy to hand the remote control back to the people, giving them the freedom to wear masks when and where they like. Normally, individual choice is a good thing; but these aren't normal times. That language reinforces a false dichotomy between individual liberty and collective responsibility. Seatbelts are compulsory and nobody complains there's not enough personal responsibility there.

Yes, it's liberating to have more freedoms restored as vaccines take hold. But it's dangerous to ignore the continued threat from the virus. We should think about the upcoming reopening as less of a definitive victory and more like getting past only one stage of a grueling competition, with a key player—the NHS—not quite fighting fit. Celebrate too long or too hard, and the next leg could be even more punishing.

US

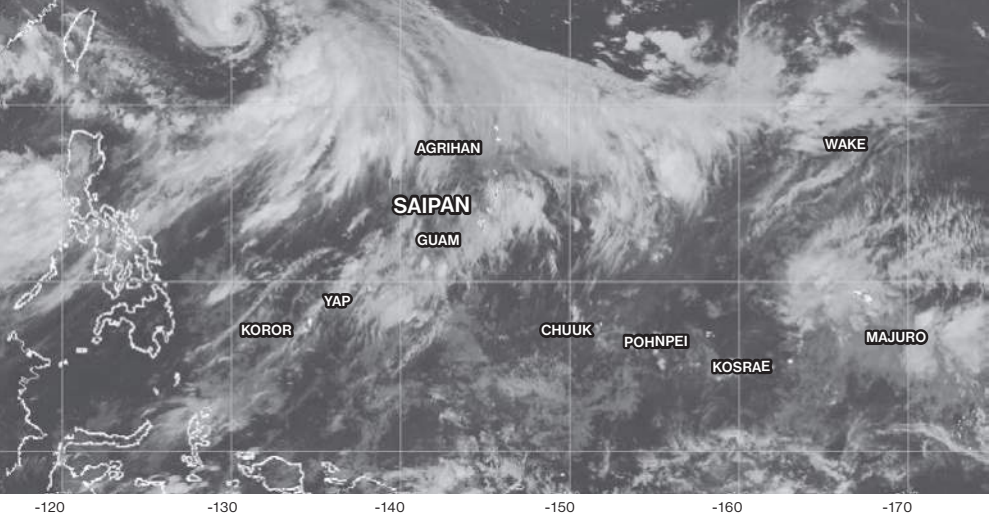
From Page 8

the days of the United States rolling over in the face of Russia's aggressive actions—interfering with our elections, cyberattacks, poisoning its citizens—are over."

While the process of shutting down REvil is still in the dark, this looks like a good example of Biden backing up his words. We provided consequences: either Putin wrangles the hackers harbored in Russia's borders or the U.S. takes swift, decisive actions to protect American assets. We hope that this signals a future of cooperation with Russia on the issue of cybercrime, as well as standing firm against Russia when their inaction results in American

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY		SUNDAY	
Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 15 mph.		Cloudy with numerous showers and scattered thunderstorms. South winds 10 to 15 mph		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.		Mostly cloudy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms.	
84°	76°	84°	76°	84°	76°	84°	76°	84°	76°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



PICTURE TIME: 11:24 AM, TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows partly sunny skies and isolated showers over the Marianas at this time. A surface trough is creating a line of showers just west of the Marianas which seems to be gradually filling in. The Ipan buoy reveals combined seas of 3 to 4 feet, composed mainly of south-southeast and east swells. Numerical wave prediction models indicate we should have a southwest swell. Perhaps after some wraparound effects this is the south-southeast swell at the Ipan buoy.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents with- in the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run nec- essary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulner- able people at home as much as possible. When return- ing home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html>
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
 - ❑ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
 - ❑ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20

seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

- ❑ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❑ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the com- munity at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are avail- able Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the CO- VID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These num- bers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323- 6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800- 985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit [https:// www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html)

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Face- book, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at <http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html> and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235- 2440, fax 235.3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Partly Cloudy	88° / 80°	
Palau	Showers	85° / 77°	
Yap	Mostly Sunny	86° / 79°	
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°	
Pohnpei	Showers	85° / 78°	
Kosrae	Showers	85° / 78°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 80°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:56 AM	6:50 PM
Friday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Saturday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM
Sunday	5:57 AM	6:49 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	2:36 AM	4:04 PM
Thursday	-	3:34 AM	5:09 PM
Friday	-	4:37 AM	6:12 PM
Saturday	-	5:41 AM	7:10 PM
Sunday	-	6:44 AM	8:02 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Showers	55° / 43°	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	84° / 70°	
Hong Kong	Showers	90° / 82°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	86° / 75°	
London	Showers	66° / 55°	
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	84° / 67°	
Manila	Rain	84° / 79°	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	59° / 48°	
Miami	Sunny	88° / 81°	
New York	Mostly Cloudy	80° / 73°	
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	93° / 81°	
Paris	Showers	73° / 57°	
Busan	Partly Cloudy	86° / 77°	
Rome	Mostly Sunny	88° / 68°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	93° / 75°	
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	63° / 54°	
Seoul	Rain	86° / 75°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	90° / 75°	
Washington, DC	Mostly Cloudy	89° / 76°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
3:48 AM	High Tide	2.16	
11:25 AM	Low Tide	-0.15	
6:45 PM	High Tide	1.98	
11:35 PM	Low Tide	1.47	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JULY 1, 2021

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	6:30am	7:10am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7	UA174	4:50am	5:31am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
UA117/183	6:30am	8:50pm	5 via Guam	UA184/174	9:50pm	5:31am+1	5 via Guam
UA117/183	6:30am	9:10pm	3, 7 via Guam				
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
UA183	6:55pm	8:50pm	5	UA184	9:50pm	4:05am+1	5
UA183	7:15pm	9:10pm	1, 3	UA184	10:25pm	4:20am+1	1, 3

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 18, 2021

SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30AM	9:00AM	Daily	3101	9:30AM	10:00AM	Daily
1302	11:00AM	11:30AM	Daily	3102	12:00AM	12:30AM	Daily
1303	1:30PM	2:00PM	Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri	3103	1:30PM	3:00PM	Tues/Wed/ Thurs/Fri
1304	3:30PM	4:00PM	Daily	3104	4:30PM	5:00PM	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable	4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable	2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
				2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
				2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
				2105	11:30	11:45	Daily
				2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
				2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
				2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
				2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
				2111	17:30	17:45	Daily
				2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES CUC-RAESP-21-029

A&E DESIGN SERVICES FOR THE SADOQ TASI WWTP UPGRADE (S20-078)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified Architectural and Engineering (A&E) firms for the Design Services of the Sadog Tasi WWTP Upgrade in Sadog Tasi, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Proposers for this project must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RAESP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one package set.

A **Mandatory Pre-proposal Conference followed by site visits** will be held on **July 22, 2021 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Proposal and One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal in a separate envelope must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “**CUC-RAESP-21-029, A&E Design Services for the Sadog Tasi WWTP Upgrade**”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on August 13, 2021. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.**

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted by competing proposers.

All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Consultant's preparation of a proposal under the contract. The RAESP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the statement of qualifications under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Consultants are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RAESP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 29, 2021** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater, Acting Chief Engineer – via email larry.manacop@cucgov.org; Westen Knudsen, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Technician Senior – via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM B. GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director



REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL AND ENGINEERING SERVICES CUC-RAESP-21-030

A&E DESIGN SERVICES FOR AGINGAN WWTP IMPROVEMENTS (S20-080)

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified Architectural and Engineering (A&E) firms for the Design Services of the Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements in Agingan, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Proposers for this project must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The RAESP package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of \$100.00 for one package set.

A **Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference followed by site visits** will be held on **July 26, 2021 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Proposal and One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies of the Cost Proposal in a separate envelope must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked “**CUC-RAESP-21-030, A&E Design Services for Agingan WWTP Improvements**”, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on August 16, 2021. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.**

Discussions may be conducted with responsible proposers who submit proposal determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. All proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity for discussion. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from the proposal submitted by competing proposers.

All proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the proposers due to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Consultant's preparation of a proposal under the contract. The RAESP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the statement of qualifications under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Consultants are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This RAESP and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from pre-registered prospective proposers and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on August 2, 2021** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Mr. Larry Manacop, CUC Water/Wastewater, Acting Chief Engineer – via email larry.manacop@cucgov.org; Westen Knudsen, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Ms. Marcela Tenorio, Administrative Technician Senior – via email marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

WILLIAM B. GILMORE
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Administrator



COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS (CNMI) OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS (DPL) Tel.: (670) 234-3751 • Website: www.dpl.gov.mp • Email: dpl@dpl.gov.mp

NOTICE OF INTENT TO LEASE PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to lease certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

- The proposed lease of public land is described as Tract 21662 containing an area of approximately 44,350 square meters, more or less, situated in Garapan, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands and website www.dpl.gov.mp for inspection.
- The prospective lessee is Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency. The lists of officers for Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency are Hitoshi Nakauchi, President, Nonuhiko Ikemoto, Secretary/Treasurer and Nick Nishikawa, as General Manager.
- The proposed lease is compliant with DPL regulations and was negotiated by Mr. Nick Nishikawa.
- The lessee shall use the premises solely for the purpose of operating a Hotel Resort Complex.

The term of the public land lease agreement is 40 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term of the lease agreement is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the property plus the applicable percentage of Business Gross Receipts in DPL's regulation.
- A copy of the proposed lease agreement may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the JoetenDandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; 1st floor of the De'Ana Commercial Building, Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian. A copy will also be available online at www.dpl.gov.mp
- The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public land in Lower Base, Saipan.
- The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before, August 3, 2021, 2021 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NUTISIAN INTENSION PARA U MA'ATKILAI TĀNU' PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106 (b) gi Lain Pupbluku 15-2, i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku mannān'i nutisia guini put i intension-ñihapara u ma'atklai metton na tanu' pupbluku giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Mariānas. Maseha hāyi na pattida ni intrisao gi halum henerat pupbluku siña muna'hālum upiñon, imfotmasion, pat testimonion kinontra gi tinahguin prinoponi siha para i atklon nu i tanu' pupbluku. Kumu mapribeni mās mo'na ginin i Lain Pupbluku 15-2, i tinattituyi pettanesi na imfotmasion manisisisita para u mapupblika.

- I maproponi na atklon tanu' pupbluku madiskribi kumu Tract 21662 ni konsisisti kasi 44,350 square meters, mās pat menus, ni gaigigi hālumGarapan, iya Saipan. I kopian pātīn i lugāt managuaha gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku yan i website gi www.dpl.gov.mp para inspeksion.
- I prospective lessee sa i Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency. I listan ufisiat siha para i Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency si Hitoshi Nakauchi, Presidenti, Nonuhiko Ikemoto, Sekritāru/Tresurāru yan si Nick Nishikawa, komu Henerat Maniya.
- I maproponi na atklon ha tattituyi i regulasion DPL siha yan ginin manegosiuni as Siñot Nick Nishikawa.
- I lessee debi na u usa i lugāt put atyu ha' na rason nu i kinalamtin Hotel Resort Complex.

I tema nu i maproponina kontrātan atklon sa kuarenta (40) ānus na tiempu.

I maproponi na atklon gi kada' sākkan gi durāntin teman kontrātan i atklon mapega gi putsientunu i bālin “appraised fair market” i propiedat yan i aplikao na putsientu nu i Business Gross Receipts gi halum i regulasion DPL.
- I kopian nu i maproponi na kuntrātan atklon siña machuli' gi ufisinan i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku, ni gaigi gi sigundu (2nd) na bibiendan i Joeten Dandan Commercial Building iya Dandan,Saipan, primet (1st) na bibiendan i De'Ana Commercial Building, iyaSongsong Village, Luta; pat i primet (1st) na bibiendan i Kings Commercial Building, giya Tini'an. I kopia debi lokku' na managuaha online gi www.dpl.gov.mp
- I Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku tāya marisibi ni hāfa na tinahguin inofresi siha ni para u ma'atklai i suhetu na tanu' pupbluku gi Lower Base, iya Saipan.
- I Sekritārian Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku debi na u akseptā tinigi' upiñon, imfotmasion, testimonion kinontra pat tinahguinprinoponi siha ginin i manintirisao na pattida siha gi pat āntis di Augusto dia Tres Benti Uno, gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbluku siha ni gaigi giya Saipan, LutapatTini'an.

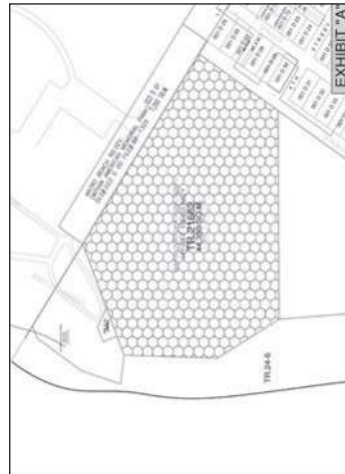
ARONGORONG REEL MÁNGEMÁNGIL POMMWOL ATKILÓÓNL FALUWEER TOULAP

Sángi Táili 106 (b) reel Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap e attotoowowa rongorong reel igha re mángemángil rebwe atklilay akkāaw faluweer toulap loll Seipél, Commonwealth Téel Falúw kka Efáng Ilól Marianas. Schóókka re mwuschel isisilong kkapas, data, views, ngäre angieing reel pommwol atklilóónl faluweer toulap. Eyoor sáangi Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, arongorong ikka e amwirimwiritw ebwe akktéewow.

- Pommwol atklilóónl faluweer toulap e bwááló bwe Tract 21662 ebwe bwáábwe 44,350 reel square meters, elapelóng áreeghus, iye e lo Arabwal, Seipél. Pappidil falúw yeel eyoor me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap me bwal wóól website me www.dpl.gov.mp ngäre u Mwuschel amwuri.
- Pommwol school atklilóón nge Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency. List-al officers ngáli Saipan Portopia Hotel Corporation dba Hyatt Regency nge Hitoshi Nakauchi, President, Nonuhiko Ikemoto, Sekkretóóriy/Treasurer me Nick Nishikawa, nge General Manager.
- Pommwol atklilóón nge e angúúng fengál me mwóghutughutúl DPL me e abwungubwung sáangi Mr. Nick Nishikawa.
- Schóól atklilóón ebwe yááyá falúw ngáli mwóghutughutúl Hotel Resort Complex.

Pommwol abwungubwungúl Atklilóónl Faluweer Toulap nge fááigh ráágh.

Pommwol atklilóónl ghal ráághatol abwungubwungúl atklilóón nge e lo reel “percentage” sáangi “appraised fair market value” reel falúw fengál me “applicable percentage of Business gross Receipts” loll mwóghutughutúl DPL.
- Pappidil pommwol abwungubwungúl Atklilóón emmwel ubwe bweibwogh mereel Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap, iye e lo 2nd floor reel Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Seipél; 1st floor reel De'Ana Commercial Building, apilómwol Songsong, me Luuta; ngäre 1st floor reel Kings Commercial Building, Tchiliyól. Ebwal yoor pappidil mille online me www.dpl.gov.mp
- Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap rese bweibwogh pommw iye re siwelingáli atklilóón iye e lo weiláng reel faluweer toulap me Navy Hill, Seipél.
- Sekkretóóriy Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap emmwelil bweibwogh ischil mángemáng, views, angli ngäre pommiye re siweli sáangi schóókka re mwuschel wool ngäre mmwalil Elune Elerra Ruwangeras Ruweigh me Eew, me Bwulasiyol Ammwelil Faluweer Toulap me Seipél, Luuta, ngäre Tchiliyól.



U.S. Air Force F-22 Raptor pilots and crew chiefs assigned to the 154th Wing, Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam, Hawaii, arrive in support of Pacific Iron 2021 at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, July 18, 2021.

U.S. AIR FORCE/SENIOR AIRMAN JUSTIN WYNN

Air Force to perform flyover during Guam LibDay today

By MSG RICHARD EBENS-BERGER
36TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

In celebration of the 77th Guam Liberation Day, U.S. Air Force aircraft will perform a formation flyover today, July 21, starting at 9am.

A formation of two F-15E Strike Eagles from the 389th Fighter Squadron, Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho, an F-22 Raptor from the 525th FS, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska, and an F-22 Raptor from the 199th FS, 154th Wing, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii will fly from south to north along Marine Corps Drive.

This flyover is also conducted in tribute to the six airmen that were killed July 21, 2008, in a B-52 Stratofortress crash with the call sign Raider 21. The Raider 21 aircrew deployed to Andersen Air Force Base in a combined deployment from both the 20th Expeditionary Bomb Squadron and 96th EBS, Barksdale Air Force Base, Louisiana,

in support of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command's Continuous Bomber Presence mission. Shortly after takeoff to perform a flyover at the 64th Guam Liberation Day parade the aircraft experienced a mechanical failure in one of the aircraft's wings and crashed off the coast of Guam.

The Raider 21 crew were: Col. (Dr.) George Martin, 36th Medical Group deputy commander, chief of aerospace medicine and flight doctor for the deployed members; Maj. Christopher Cooper, 96th EBS aircraft commander; Maj. Brent Williams, 96th EBS radar navigator; Capt. Michael Dodson, 20th EBS co-pilot; 1st Lt. Robert Gerren, 20th EBS electronic warfare officer; and 1st Lt. Joshua Shepherd, 20th EBS navigator.

Members of the community are encouraged to observe the flyover at the following locations:

- Asan Beach Park
- Chamorro Village
- Tumon



By MSG RICHARD EBENS-BERGER
36TH WING PUBLIC AFFAIRS

ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE, Guam—Several joint military training exercises will take place over the next few months at Andersen Air Force Base.

The exercises will consist of numerous military aircraft operating over Guam and throughout the region. Residents near Andersen AFB, A. B. Won Pat International Airport, and in the surrounding areas may see or hear in-

creased airspace activity, as a result of the exercises.

"Measures have been taken to minimize disruptions within the local communities, but there may be increased vehicle traffic near the base and loud aircraft may be heard over Guam," said Brig. Gen. Jeremy T. Sloane, 36th Wing commander. "We appreciate the community's patience and

understanding as we work to hone our capabilities and build cohesion with our joint military partners."

Andersen will host multiple deployed personnel and military equipment from various locations. These exercises are not in response to any specific threat, but are regularly scheduled to ensure the continued readiness of U.S. and partner forces.

"These training events will prove our readiness and are critical to developing the skills needed to respond to operational missions throughout the region to ensure a stable, free, and open Indo-Pacific," said Sloane. "All COVID mitigation measures will be strictly enforced in accordance with current Andersen AFB and GovGuam guidance."

Luckett takes over as US Naval Base Guam commanding officer

SANTA RITA, Guam—Capt. Michael D. Luckett relieved Capt. Jeffrey M. Grimes as commanding officer of U.S. Naval Base Guam during a Change of Command Ceremony held at Cmdr. William C. McCool Elementary/Middle School onboard NBG last July 19.

Commander, Joint Region Marianas Rear Adm. Benjamin Nicholson addressed guests and expressed his gratitude for Grimes' accomplishments.

"With multiple back-to-back tours in Guam, he is one of the few who have seen aspirations become plans, plans become projects, and projects completed," Nicholson said. "Naval Base Guam has changed significantly in his time here from pier improvements and base cleanliness to additional permanent units and major exercises. Jeff has done it all here on Naval Base Guam ... Your legacy of leadership and compassion have left an indelible mark on our Sailors, civilians, families, and the community."

Grimes served as NBG's commanding officer from July 2018 to July 2021. During this time, he led NBG and its 35 tenant commands during a period characterized by dynamic growth and unique challenges.

Among his accomplishments, Grimes worked tirelessly with military and local

officials to address the COVID-19 pandemic, and innovatively and independently organized a Task Force, rapidly converted installation facilities and developed Standard Operating Procedures that enabled the successful, first ever COVID REVIVE mission of USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) returning this important National Security Asset and its 4,800 Sailors to full mission capability.

"No matter what challenge falls our way, I know that everyone ... will show up at the fight, stand side by side with their neighbor lend a helping hand and defeat whatever challenge is placed before us," Grimes said. "To solidify this fact that I know to be true and communicate our commitment, we changed the motto on Naval Base Guam from 'Gateway to the Pacific' to 'Fighting from Guam, Fighting for Guam.'"

Luckett recently served as commanding officer of USS Emory S. Land (AS-39) from September 2018 to May 2021. Under his leadership, the ship completed more than 10 months of deployed operations across the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command theater.

Land successfully executed three deployments in the U.S. 7th Fleet area of operations and completed an eight-month scheduled maintenance period in Vallejo, California.

Throughout Luckett's tour, Land completed 7,000 hours of repair work on forward deployed naval force units in Sasebo, Japan, a historic visit to the Ulithi Atoll - the first since World War II, the completion of 19 submarine and surface ship maintenance repair periods, and a subject matter expert exchange with the Indian Navy's submarine flag leadership. Land was awarded the 2019 Commander, Submarine Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Battle Efficiency ("E") Award, as well as numerous other mission specialty awards.


"I am excited, honored and humbled to have the opportunity to lead this fantastic team," Luckett said, addressing NBG personnel. "Each of you plays an important part in executing the mission of Naval Base Guam."

Luckett said Guam has been an important part of his Navy career and life for many years, first as a junior officer on a port call to NBG more than 20 years ago and then in 2004 assigned to a submarine homeported on the island. After more than a decade away, he returned in 2018.

"When people ask me why I live in Guam, I tell them that I came for the mission, and stayed for the people," Luckett said. "Guam has never been more important to our nation's defense than it is now, and Naval Base Guam is an invaluable asset to our Navy and the rest of the Joint Force." (PR)




Luckett



Commonwealth Zoning Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 28, 2021 | 5:00 PM
Queens Club, Kensington Hotel
Tel: 234-9661/2 • Fax: 234-9666
www.cnmzoning.com



AGENDA

A.

Preliminary Matters

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of 06/16/2021 Zoning Board Meeting minutes and 06/23/2021 Special Zoning Board Meeting minutes.
5. Public Comments (not for items to be discussed in item B. Public Hearings)

B.

Public Hearings:

1. **Conditional Use Application #2020-7539** - CannaBlyss, Inc is proposing to occupy and renovate two (2) existing single-story concrete structure for its Cannabis Farm Use. Building A measures 67'6" (L) x 34'5" (W) x 12'3" (H) and Building B measures 40'8" (L) x 56' (W) x 10'2" (H). This use is classified as "Cannabis Farm" and is permitted in the district as a conditional use. This site is located on Lot No. 1856 New-6-1 in the village of Garapan. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.
2. **Conditional Use Application #2020-6462** - Top Hat Saipan, LLC is proposing to occupy and renovate a unit on the 2nd floor of an existing 2-storey building structure measuring 76'3" (L) x 45'10" (W) x 16' (H) for its "Adult Business" Use. This use is permitted in the district as a conditional use and the site is located on Lot No. 002 D 07 in the village of Garapan. This area is zoned as Garapan Core.
3. **Conditional Use Application #2020-7211** - Ocean Spa is proposing to occupy and renovate a unit in the 1st floor of an existing 2-storey building with a floor area measuring 17'3" (L) x 26'6" (W) x 9' (H) for its Personal Service-Spa Use. This use is classified as "Personal Service" and is permitted in the district as a conditional use. This site is located on Lot No. 157-5 in the village of As Terlaje. This area is zoned as Village Residential.
4. **Conditional Use Application #2020-6772** - SPP, LLC dba CSP Farm is proposing to construct a 66' (L) x 39'7" (W) x 12' (H) fully concrete building structure for its "Cannabis Farm" Use. This use is permitted in the district as a conditional use and the site is located on Lot No. 039 L 50/039 L 51 in the village of Obyan. This area is zoned as Rural.

C.

Old Business

1. Zoning Office Building Renovations
2. Garapan Revitalization Project

D.

New Business

1. Nuisance Abatement and Blighted Properties Act
 - i. Regulations
2. Administrator's Contract Renewal
3. Board Compensation

E.

Executive Session

F.

Miscellaneous

1. Administrator's Updates
2. Permit & Enforcement Report

G.

Adjournment

In an effort to provide public access to this meeting during this pandemic, the Commonwealth Zoning Board will host this meeting via:

Zoom Video Communications

Meeting Link: <https://zoom.us/j/6853007492>
Meeting Code: 685 300 7492

Nation

Calls for outside help as extreme weather fuels Oregon fires

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP)—The threat of thunderstorms and lightning has prompted officials in fire-ravaged Oregon to ask for help from outside the Pacific Northwest to prepare for additional blazes as many resources are already devoted to a massive fire in the state that has grown to a third the size of Rhode Island.

The 537-square-mile (1,391-square-kilometer) Bootleg Fire is burning 300 miles (483 kilometers) south-east of Portland and around the Fremont-Winema National Forest, a vast expanse of old-growth forest, lakes and wildlife refuges. Evacuations and property losses have been minimal compared with much smaller blazes in densely populated areas of California.

But eyeing how the Boot-

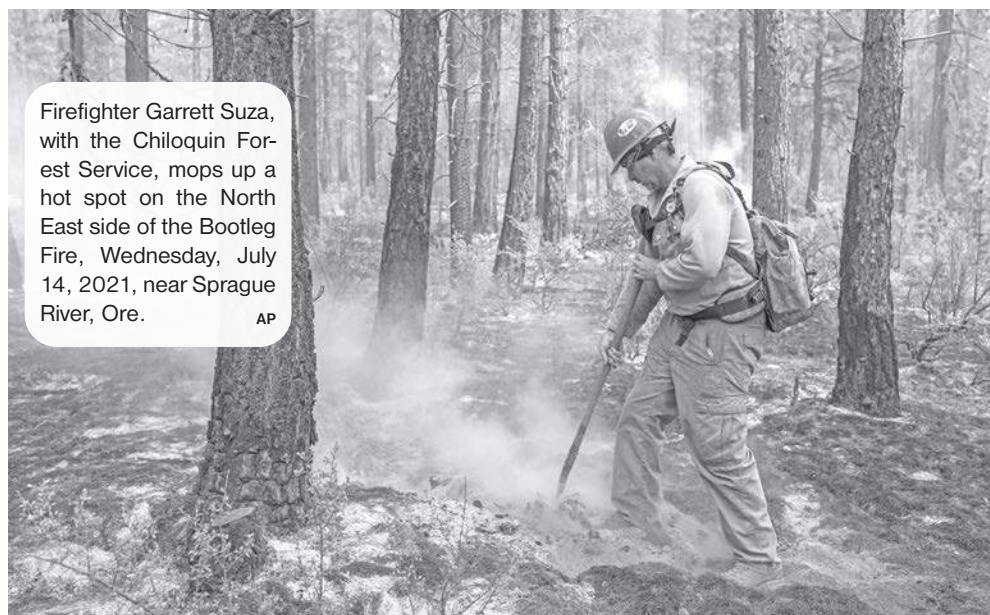
leg Fire—fueled by extreme weather—keeps growing by miles each day, officials with the Rogue River-Siskiyou National Forest in southwest Oregon are asking for more outside crews to be ready should there be a surge in fire activity there.

“Although the lightning activity predicted for early this week is expected to occur east of us, we are prepared for the worst, and hoping for the best,” Mike McCann, an assistant fire staff, said Monday in a statement released by the national forest.

The worry is that dry conditions, a drought and the recent record-breaking heat wave in the region have created tinderbox conditions, so resources like fire engines are being recruited from plac-

es like Arkansas, Nevada and Alaska.

Meanwhile, to the east, the Bootleg Fire’s jaw-dropping size contrasted with its relatively small impact on people underscores the vastness of the American West and offers a reminder that Oregon, which is larger than Britain, is still a largely rural state, despite being known mostly for its large city, Portland.



Firefighter Garrett Suza, with the Chiloquin Forest Service, mops up a hot spot on the North East side of the Bootleg Fire, Wednesday, July 14, 2021, near Sprague River, Ore. **AP**

ACROSS THE NATION

Searchers rescued after helicopter crash; hiker also found

RENO, Nev. (AP)—A Navy helicopter crew looking for a hiker missing in some California mountains east of Yosemite National Park survived after they crashed near the tallest peak in Nevada, and both the searchers and the hiker were rescued over the weekend. The four-member crew escaped injury but had to spend Friday night in the rugged wilderness before being rescued Saturday from a ridge along the California-Nevada line, about 120 miles (193 kilometers) south of Naval Air Station Fallon, Nevada, authorities said. The Navy is investigating the cause of the crash reported about 5 p.m. Friday, Navy spokesman Zip Upham said Monday. The Navy MH-60 Knighthawk had been helping with the search for a lost hiker in the White Mountains in the Inyo National Forest. Ronald Bolen, an Oklahoma University professor who was reported missing last week on a trail to Boundary Peak, was found by hikers late Saturday or Sunday in good condition

and transported for medical treatment, the Mono County sheriff’s office said.

Firefighter, paramedics wounded in deadly Arizona shootings

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP)—Authorities on Monday identified a suspect accused of fatally shooting one person and wounding four others, including firefighters and paramedics, during a house fire in Tucson. Leslie Stephen Scarlett, 35, remained in extremely critical condition at a local hospital, Tucson Police Chief Chris Magnus said at a news conference. Magnus said the suspect was wounded in an exchange of gunfire with a police officer on Sunday. “It is not clear what his intentions were,” Magnus said. “This is a highly tragic, really horrific incident, with many unknowns ... A nightmare scenario.” According to the Arizona Department of Corrections, Scarlett has a criminal history that includes a 2007 conviction for an attempted armed robbery. He was sentenced to six years and was released in August 2013.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
SPP, LLC dba CSP Farm

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board Public Hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. SPP, LLC dba CSP Farm is proposing to construct a 66’ (L) x 39’.7” (W) x 12’ (H) fully concrete building structure for its “Cannabis Farm” Use. This use is permitted in the district as a conditional use and the site is located on Lot No. 039 L 50/039 L 51 in the village of Obyan. This area is zoned as Rural.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: July 28, 2021
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Queens Club, Kensington Hotel

Comments on the proposal may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may be submitted directly to the Zoning Office before 4:30 pm, July 27, 2021. Please send written comments via e-mail to zoningboard@cnmizoning.com, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or deliver them to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, Dandan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please call 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq.) and the Amended Saipan Zoning Law of 2013.

/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
CannaBlyss, Inc.

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board Public Hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. CannaBlyss, Inc is proposing to occupy and renovate two (2) existing single-story concrete structure for its Cannabis Farm Use. Building A measures 67’.6” (L) x 34’.5” (W) x 12’.3” (H) and Building B measures 40’.8” (L) x 56’ (W) x 10’.2” (H). This use is classified as “Cannabis Farm” and is permitted in the district as a conditional use. This site is located on Lot No. 1856 New-6-1 in the village of Garapan. This area is zoned as Mixed Commercial.

A public hearing will be held on:

Date: July 28, 2021
Time: 5:00 pm
Place: Queens Club, Kensington Saipan

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/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Ocean Spa

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/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Top Hatz Saipan, LLC

The Public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board Public Hearing on this request for Conditional Use Permit. Top Hatz Saipan, LLC is proposing to occupy and renovate a unit on the 2nd floor of an existing 2-storey building structure measuring 76’.3” (L) x 45’.10” (W) x 16’ (H) for its “Adult Business” Use. This use is permitted in the district as a conditional use and the site is located on Lot No. 002 D 07 in the village of Garapan. This area is zoned as Garapan Core.


A public hearing will be held on:

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/s/ Tatiana Babauta, Chairwoman



OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR
INVITATION TO BID (ITB)
ITB21-OPA-002



SUBMISSION/OPENING DATE: August 9, 2021 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

“PURCHASE OF TWENTY (20) EACH DELL LAPTOPS / DOCKS / MONITORS / UPS / WIRELESS KEYBOARDS & MOUSE COMBO”

THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE, LOCATED AT 1236 YAP DRIVE, CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS (MONDAY – FRIDAY, 7:30 AM – 4:30 PM, CLOSED ON HOLIDAYS).

INQUIRIES MAY BE DIRECTED TO MICHELLE A. CAMACHO, OPA PROCUREMENT OFFICER, AT TELEPHONE NUMBERS (670) 322-6481/2 OR E-MAIL TO mcamacho@opacmi.com.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI OPA PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC § 130-30-725 AND § 130-30-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES AND KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC AUDITOR (OPA) RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE OPA. ALL BIDS RECEIVED SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE OPA AND WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO THE BIDDERS.

/s/ KINA B. PETER, OPA
PUBLIC AUDITOR

/s/ MICHELLE A. CAMACHO
PROCUREMENT OFFICER

World

Research: India's deaths during pandemic 10X official toll

NEW DELHI (AP)—India's excess deaths during the pandemic could be a staggering 10 times the official COVID-19 toll, likely making it modern India's worst human tragedy, according to the most comprehensive research yet on the ravages of the virus in the south Asian country.

Most experts believe India's official toll of more than 414,000 dead is a vast undercount, but the government has

dismissed those concerns as exaggerated and misleading.

The report released Tuesday estimated excess deaths—the gap between those recorded and those that would have been expected—to be between 3 million to 4.7 million between January 2020 and June 2021. It said an accurate figure may “prove elusive” but the true death toll “is likely to be an order of magnitude greater

than the official count.”

The report, published by Arvind Subramanian, the Indian government's former chief economic adviser, and two other researchers at the Center for Global Development and Harvard University, said the count could have missed deaths occurring in overwhelmed hospitals or while health care was delayed or disrupted, especially during the devastating peak

surge earlier this year.

“True deaths are likely to be in the several millions not hundreds of thousands, making this arguably India's worst human tragedy since Partition and independence,” the report said.

The Partition of the British-ruled Indian subcontinent into independent India and Pakistan in 1947 led to the killing of up to 1 million people as gangs of Hindus and Muslims

slaughtered each other.

The report on India's virus toll used three calculation methods: data from the civil registration system that records births and deaths across seven states, blood tests showing the prevalence of the virus in India along-

side global COVID-19 fatality rates, and an economic survey of nearly 900,000 people done thrice a year.

Researchers cautioned that each method had weaknesses, such as the economic survey omitting the causes of death.

WORLD BRIEFS

Iraqi officials: Roadside bomb kills 30 in Baghdad market

BAGHDAD (AP)—A roadside bomb attack targeted a Baghdad suburb Monday, killing at least 30 people and wounding dozens of others at a crowded market, Iraqi medical officials said. The attack took place in the Wahaiyat market in Sadr City, Iraq's military said in a statement. Two medical officials said at least 30 people were killed and dozens more wounded in the powerful explosion. They spoke on condition of anonymity in line with regulations. The blast happened a day before the Eid al-Adha holiday when the market was busy with shoppers looking for gifts and groceries. Piles of merchandise lay on the ground after the explosion. Shopkeepers recounted to security forces how the blast occurred as they salvaged what items they could. There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the bombing but the Islamic State group has claimed similar attacks in the area before.

South Korean gov't apologizes over virus-stricken destroyer

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—South Korea's prime minister on Tuesday apologized for “failing to carefully take care of the health” of hundreds of sailors who contracted the coronavirus on a navy ship taking part in an anti-piracy mission off East Africa. The outbreak aboard the destroyer *Munmu the Great* is the largest cluster South Korea's military has seen. A total of 247 of the ship's 301 crew have tested positive for COVID-19 in recent days and two military planes had to be dispatched to fly them all home. None of the destroyer's crew had been vaccinated because they left South Korea in early February, before the start of the country's vaccination campaign. Prime Minister Kim Boo-kyum said in televised comments that the government is “very sorry for failing to carefully take care of the health of our soldiers who are devoting themselves to the country.”

Afghan official says rockets hit near presidential palace

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—At least three rockets hit near the presidential palace on Tuesday shortly before Afghan President Ashraf Ghani was to give an address to mark the Muslim holiday of Eid-a-Adha. There were no injuries and the rockets landed outside the heavily fortified palace grounds, said Mirwais Stanikzai, spokesman for the interior minister. No one immediately took responsibility for the rocket attack which seemed more intended to unnerve than do damage. The palace is in the middle of a so-called Green Zone that is fortified with giant cement blast walls and barbed wire, and streets near the palace have long been closed off. The barrage comes as the U.S. and NATO complete their final withdrawal from Afghanistan which has unnerved Afghans uncertain whether their war-ravaged country will fall deeper into chaos and violence. The withdrawal is more than 95% complete and the final U.S. soldier will be gone by Aug. 31, President Joe Biden said in an address earlier this month.

Leftist teacher, political novice, is Peru's president-elect

LIMA, Peru (AP)—A teacher in one of the poorest communities in the Andes who had never held office is now Peru's president-elect after officials in the South American country declared him the winner of a runoff election held last month. Leftist Pedro Castillo catapulted from unknown to president-elect with the support of the country's poor and rural citizens, many of whom identify with the struggles the teacher has faced. Castillo was officially declared winner Monday after the country's electoral count became the longest in 40 years as his opponents fought the results. Castillo received 44,000 more votes than right-wing politician Keiko Fujimori in the June 6 runoff. This is the third presidential election defeat for the daughter of imprisoned former President Alberto Fujimori. “Let's not put the obstacles to move this country forward,” Castillo asked his opponent in his first remarks in front of hundreds of followers in Lima.

IN LOVING MEMORY

*Hedwig Henry “Ding”
Atalig Hofschneider*

NOVEMBER 02, 1984 – JULY 17, 2021



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the untimely passing of our beloved, **HEDWIG HENRY ATALIG HOFSCHEIDER**. He was a light in this world, and now we need to continue shining his light by carrying it within us in our own lives.

Daily mass of intentions is being offered at the following parishes:

Our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral
Monday through Saturday 6:00AM
Sunday 9:00AM

San Antonio Church
Monday through Saturday 6:00PM | Sunday 7:00AM and 6:00PM

Saint Jude Church
Monday through Saturday 6:00PM | Sunday 6:00AM and 8:00AM

San Jose Church, Tinian
Monday, Wednesday and Friday 6:00PM
Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday 6:00AM

Wake and funeral services will be announced later.

We thank you for your prayers, your thoughts,
and your love for our beloved “Ding.”

**Emerenciana “Emi” A. Hofschneider
Velma H. and Ricky I. Sanchez and sons
Estelle A. Hofschneider**



Life & Style

Lady Gaga, Tony Bennett reunite

Two music superstars will share the stage this summer when Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga team up for two nights at New York's Radio City Music Hall.

"One Last Time: An Evening with Tony Bennett and Lady Gaga" will open on Aug. 3, which is Bennett's 95th birthday. A second performance is set for Aug. 5.

Lady Gaga and Bennett collaborated on the song "The Lady Is a Tramp" for Bennett's 2011 "Duets II" album and their collaborative album "Cheek to Cheek" debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard Album charts and earned them a Grammy for "Best Traditional Pop Vocal."

Earlier this year, Bennett's family revealed that the 19-



In this combination photo, Tony Bennett, left, arrives at the 61st annual Grammy Awards on Feb. 10, 2019, in Los Angeles and Lady Gaga arrives at the Vanity Fair Oscar Party on Feb. 24, 2019, in Beverly Hills, Calif. JORDAN STRAUSS, LEFT, AND EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/AP

time Grammy-winner was diagnosed with dementia in 2016. Promoters say the Au-

gust concerts will be Bennett's last New York performances of his career. (AP)

Road warrior Bob Dylan returns to stage—at least on film

NEW YORK (AP)—After a year and a half away because of the pandemic, relentless road warrior Bob Dylan returned to a concert stage on Sunday—at least online.

He performed for fans who paid \$25 to watch online through the live-streaming platform Veeps. It was less a concert than a stylized black-and-white film, with the 80-year-old singer fronting a four-piece band in a juke joint before audience members who smoked a lot and paid little attention to him.

Dylan hasn't performed live since December 2019, COVID-19 finally concluding his so-called Never Ending tour. Since 1988, he had kept performing regularly: 78 gigs in 2019, 84 in 2018, for example.

His wardrobe changes and dif-

ferences in the placement of the band and witnesses made clear that Sunday's performance, titled "Shadow Kingdom," did not run straight through. His audience was actors rather than fans; they didn't applaud.

Dylan's band included an accordion player and, for many songs, an upright bass player. There was no drummer, with the performances more folk, blues and country instead of rock 'n' roll. Dylan sometimes accompanied himself on acoustic guitar, as on the opener, "When I Paint My Masterpiece."

As he began, two women sat in tables in front of him, smoking and taking drinks from beer bottles. When he performed "I'll Be Your Baby Tonight," the women flanked the white-coated Dylan onstage, staring

emotionless at the camera.

Dylan concentrated on material from early in his career, including infrequently performed numbers like "Queen Jane Approximately" or "Wicked Messenger." His luminous version of "Forever Young" was the best-known of the 13-song performance. A version of "What Was it You Wanted" from the 1989 album "Oh Mercy" was the only song originally released later than the early 1970s.

He didn't speak to his online audience. After a stark version of "It's All Over Now, Baby Blue," the performance was over in less than an hour, giving it the feel of the first part of something more. Dylan hasn't announced any further appearances on Veep.com, and hasn't said when he is returning to the road.

'Without Me' singer Halsey announces birth of first child

Halsey has something new to sing about: motherhood.

The pop star announced on Instagram on Monday that she has given birth to her first child. The 26-year-old posted black-and-white photos of her holding her baby next to her boyfriend, screenwriter Alev

Aydin.

The singer wrote that their baby was born July 14 and is named Ender Ridley Aydin.

"Gratitude. For the most 'rare' and euphoric birth. Pow-



Halsey

ered by love," Halsey wrote on her post.

Halsey has released three platinum albums and is known for hits like "Without Me," "Bad at Love" and "Closer" with the Chainsmokers. (AP)

Prince Harry working on 'intimate and heartfelt memoir'

NEW YORK (AP)—Prince Harry is writing what his publisher is calling an "intimate and heartfelt memoir."

Random House expects to release the book, currently untitled, late in 2022.

"I'm writing this not as the prince I was born but as the man I have become," the Duke of Sussex, 36, said in a statement Monday. "I've worn many hats over the years, both literally and figuratively, and my hope is that in telling my story—the highs and lows, the mistakes, the lessons learned—I can help show that no matter where we come from, we have more in common than we think. I'm deeply grateful for the opportunity to share what I've learned over the course of my life so far and excited for people to read a firsthand account of my life that's accurate and wholly truthful."

Financial terms were not disclosed. Prince Harry will donate proceeds to charity, according to Random House.



Harry

"Prince Harry will share, for the very first time, the definitive account of the experiences, adventures, losses, and life lessons that have helped shape him," Random House announced.

"Covering his lifetime in the public eye from childhood to the present day, including his dedication to service, the military duty that twice took him to the frontlines of Afghanistan, and the joy he has found in being a husband and father, Prince Harry will offer an honest and captivating personal portrait, one that shows readers that behind everything they think they know lies an inspiring, courageous, and uplifting human story."

Monday's announcement comes four months after Harry and his wife, Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, made worldwide news during their interview with Oprah Winfrey near the couple's home in Montecito, California. Meghan spoke of feeling lonely and

nearly suicidal before they left England last year and Harry acknowledged tension with his father, Prince Charles, over his decision to step back from his royal duties and his marriage to the biracial American actor.

"There is a lot to work through there," Harry said about his relationship with his father, who was divorced from Diana, Princess of Wales, at the time of her fatal car accident in 1997. "I feel really let down. He's been through something similar. He knows what pain feels like. And Archie (Harry and Meghan's son) is his grandson. I will always love him, but there is a lot of hurt that has happened."

Harry told Winfrey that he felt trapped by royal life and that his family cut off him financially and took away his security. He also acknowledged his relations were strained with his brother, Prince William.

"I was trapped, but I didn't know I was trapped," Harry said, before adding, "My father and my brother, they are trapped."

Woman continues to hide ex's double life

DEAR ABBY: I broke up with my boyfriend a few months ago, but I'm still having a difficult time getting over him. I discovered he was responding to sexual messages from men and sending them pictures of himself, including his body parts. I feel this is the biggest betrayal any woman could experience, and keeping the truth from our mutual friends has been difficult.

When people ask me what caused the breakup, I have to deny the truth and tell them we just grew apart. Now I wonder if he ever loved me or was he just using me because I was the breadwinner while he stayed home. I keep wondering if all those times he claimed to be at the gym was he really there? Please help me.

BROKEN DIGNITY IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR BROKEN: That your boyfriend wasn't honest about the fact that he was bisexual and unfaithful was, indeed, a betrayal. I also agree that all those times he claimed to be "at the gym" he was likely WITH "Jim." That you supported him financially while he involved himself with others—regardless of their gender—was another betrayal.

You should be on your knees thanking your higher power you learned what was going on before you wasted more time (or money) on him. Quit covering for him by lying to your friends about what happened. You are not the first woman to fall for a cheater and you won't be the last.

P.S. If you haven't already contacted your doctor to be tested for STDs, the time is now.

DEAR ABBY: A close friend of mine hadn't been feeling well. After seeing her doctor for a full day of tests she met up with me, and I listened to her concerns. Before I could stop myself, I blurted out, "God, I hope you don't have cancer!" She became very upset because of my comment and made me feel guilty for even mentioning it. While I meant my remark to be more caring than callous, it backfired.

With cancer so prevalent in today's society, when is it OK to talk about it? Is it something we tiptoe around and discuss only after a full diagnosis? I regret my words, and need to know how I can become a more caring, supportive friend.

OOPS, IN FLORIDA

DEAR "OOPS": Cancer, like other illnesses that can be fatal, should be discussed when and if the person has the diagnosis, reveals it AND FEELS THE NEED TO DISCUSS IT.

DEAR ABBY: I have been married to a wonderful man for 46 years. The only disagreement we have had during all this time is my hairstyle. Growing up, I had curly (kinky) hair, for which I was bullied and teased. I feel secure and safe when I straighten it. He loves it curly.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



I feel insecure and sad when I try to make him happy. Because I feel so much better with straight hair, I don't think I can honor his wishes. To some people, this may seem trivial, but it's a major issue in our home. I would appreciate your advice. "HAIR-DON'T" OUT WEST

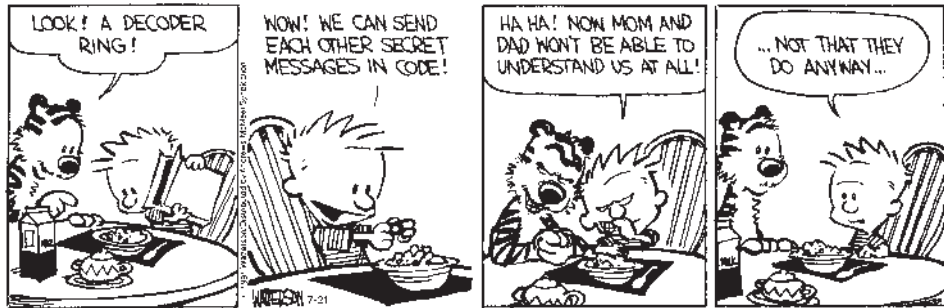
DEAR "HAIR-DON'T": My advice is, to thine own self be true. If you feel depressed and insecure with curly hair, then you should not feel forced to wear it that way. It's your head and your feelings, and your husband will have to adjust and accept it.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



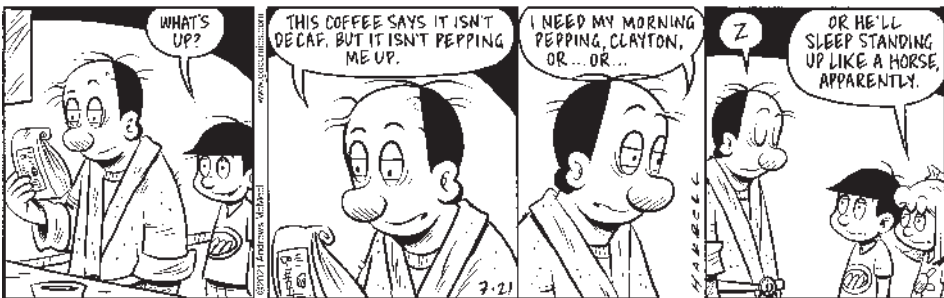
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Soak (up) e.g.
4 Hunt for
8 Fury gadget
12 Football's brand
13 — Bator
14 Related
15 Literary rep
16 World's largest mammal
18 Civil rights org.
20 Mess up
21 "Sad to say ..."
24 1945 conference site
28 Harbinger of spring
32 Pile
33 Equal (Pref.)
34 Roman robes
36 High card
37 Mast
39 Arctic animal
41 Follow
43 Slender
44 — de plume
46 Wanders

DOWN

50 Grizzly, e.g.
55 Kitchen gadget
56 Gumbo need
57 "Rule, Britannia!" composer
58 Vinyl records
59 Prying
60 Stated
61 Ode title starter

17 Sardonic
19 Train unit
22 Take — (react to applause)
23 Weary sounds
48 Big fair, for short
49 Slugger Sammy
50 "— voyage!"
51 "Top Hat" studio
52 Hosp. areas
53 Historic time
54 Blackbird

Solution time: 23 mins.

B	A	L	M	N	C	A	A	B	U	B
A	N	D	I	E	A	R	L	O	R	P
G	O	L	D	M	E	D	A	L	G	A
A	N	S	C	O	F	F	S			
A	S	H	E	R	P	A	L	M		
B	E	O	H	D	I	E	S	D	O	W
U	H	L	N	O	R	A	H	V	E	
I	A	D	P	O	L	E	S	P	E	N
T	O	T	E	M	I	S	E	R		
H	A	I	T	I	F	E	A	R		
A	N	G	C	O	L	D	C	A	L	L
N	T	H	E	R	I	N	T	O	O	T
K	I	T	D	A	T	A	E	C	O	S

Yesterday's answer 7-21

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Juno Temple, 32; Anya Chalotra, 35; Josh Hartnett, 43; Jon Lovitz, 64.

Happy Birthday: Do your research and put everything in its place before you move into high gear. Time is on your side. Feeling ready will be critical when it comes time to present what you have to offer. Change is inevitable, but turning an opportunity into something tangible takes patience, paying attention to detail and feeling confident enough to execute your plans. Your numbers are 8, 12, 24, 28, 30, 39, 47.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You can wheel and deal, but before you make a final decision, check the facts and figures. Make a decision based on truth and longevity. A fitness routine will give you clarity as well as help build physical strength and stamina. ★★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Inconsistency will be your downfall. Do your part to get the facts straight and to make up your mind. Vacillating will allow someone to step in and take over. Take a stance if you feel someone is outmaneuvering you. ★★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Consider the validity of what's being said or offered. Refuse to let anyone lead you down a rabbit hole. Show discipline, verify the information, and stay focused on physical accomplishments, love and solid relationships. Walk away from emotionally manipulative people. ★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Think matters through to the end before you begin. Having a plan in place will ease

your mind and help you decipher what's legit before getting involved. Preparation is vital when it comes to success and happiness. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Plan something cost-efficient but packed full of excitement and fun. An adventure day that tests your skills and awakens your soul will change your life forever. Stop contemplating and start living the dream. Romance is encouraged; embrace new beginnings. ★★★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Protect against deception and emotional manipulation. Take nothing and no one for granted; don't rely on others to do things for you. Stay focused on what's important to you and make any adjustments necessary to get what you want. ★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Show more interest in making a difference. Get involved in a group or organization, and you'll feel good about the contribution you make and the people you meet. Change begins with you; offer your skills and services. Romance is on the rise. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Channel your energy into decluttering your space and making room for something you want to pursue. A change of plans will offer insight into an unexpected partnership. Learn from the experience, and you'll find a way to excel. Expand your horizons. ★★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): A physical challenge will help you feel good about what you achieve. Distance yourself from anyone who puts you down or plays mind games with you. Be cautious regard-

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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ing health, financial or contractual issues. Pay attention to detail. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You'll advance if you pay attention to detail and handle matters personally. An open mind and the ability to recognize a deal will lead to financial gain. A joint venture looks promising, and family discussions will lead to a positive change. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Reconnect with someone who has helped you out, and you will pick up where you left off and find common ground that can result in an ongoing partnership. Don't let a change at home discourage you. Embrace new beginnings. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Have a vision regarding business, status and getting ahead. An opportunity is good only if you take advantage of what's available. Don't let something pass you by because you don't believe in yourself. Step up and make things happen. ★★★★★

Birthday Baby: You are sensitive, gullible and dramatic. You are curious and intense. ★★

★: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ★★: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ★★★: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ★★★★★: Aim high; start new projects. ★★★★★: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			2				1			
1			7		4				9	
	7		3	5	1		8			
		1					9			
2		8					5		3	
	6	9					7	4		
		3					4			
	9		2	6	3		7			
	2						6			

Difficulty Level ★★★

7/21

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

7	2	9	5	8	4	3	6	1
5	4	1	2	3	6	9	7	8
8	6	3	1	7	9	2	5	4
3	7	4	6	1	5	8	2	9
6	9	8	7	4	2	5	1	3
2	1	5	8	9	3	7	4	6
1	3	7	4	2	8	6	9	5
9	5	2	3	6	1	4	8	7
4	8	6	9	5	7	1	3	2

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WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

CALDERAS Solution: 7 letters

N A S B A S I N L I K E (K) A L
O O I L I T H I U M L E A D B
V T N N S I L I C I C O T A D
A O K E O S U N E V T U S L N
R L H S X O L A V A F A A V A
U I O P M P M O K F L R V R L
P U L A E E L A N T G L E S T
T Q E L T E D R O N E C V I T
A P O L A K I E S S L L N Y R
M C G O L T G W E I I E R A E
B R N C P R A H S C V U N F B
O A I U U T S R A M C E O L M
R T R S E A E H T R A E N O A
A E E R N E S T E D L O G O H
E R O S I O N M A Z A M A R C

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Apolaki, Ashes, Basalt, Basinlike, Chamber, Collapse, Cone, Crater, Deposits, Earth, Erosion, Eruption, Floor, Gases, Gold, Island, Krakatoa, Lake, Large, Lava, Lead, Lithium, Mars, Mazama, Mercury, Metal, Moon, Nested, Non-explosive, Novarupta, Quilotoa, Resurgent, Ring, Silica, Silicic, Silver, Sinkhole, Tambora, Tuff, Vast, Vents, Venus, Water

Yesterday's Answer: Buttons
Treasures 22 through 43 can be purchased online at www.WonderWordBooks.com.

STUMPED?

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Renfroe's slam leads 6 HRs as Red Sox rout Blue Jays



BUFFALO, N.Y. (AP)—Hunter Renfroe hit a grand slam, Kiké Hernández drove in three runs with two homers and the Boston Red Sox snapped a two-game losing streak with a 13-4 win over the Toronto Blue Jays on Monday night.

Rookie Jarren Duran hit his first major league homer, Dylan Santana and Rafael Devers also went yard, and J.D. Martinez broke out of a slump with four hits as the Red Sox opened the three-game series by improving their AL-leading road record to 29-19.

Manager Alex Cora was pleased with how the Red Sox responded after he shook up the lineup coming off a 2-6 stretch.

"Where we are at right now, we are not going to surprise people," Cora said. "We are in first place in the American League East. And we have to show up every single day. Every single day. And we've done a great job throughout the season. But there was an it-factor today."

Red Sox starter Nick Pivetta (8-4) allowed four runs on 11 hits and two walks while recording four strikeouts in 6 2/3 innings.

Toronto used eight pitchers and had its five-game win streak halted. Blue Jays starters had not allowed a run in the last four games.

The Red Sox broke loose for eight runs in the first inning, more than the six they scored in a three-game weekend series against the rival New York Yankees. They matched their scoring output from consecutive losses to the Yankees when Duran homered to the opposite field following a leadoff double from Hernández.

Not long after, Renfroe's sixth career grand slam chased Blue Jays starter Ross Stripling, who gave up six runs on four hits and two walks while getting only one out in his first appearance this season that didn't extend into at least the fourth inning.

The three home runs were the most the Red Sox have hit in a single inning this season, and it was the first time in history the team has homered three times in the first inning of a road game, according to Elias Sports Bureau.

"It takes a lot of pressure off a pitcher in that situation," Pivetta said. "It's really positive stuff and it sets a tone for this series. Who we are and what we want to accomplish here."

Hernandez, who was 1-for-17 over his last five games, homered off Anthony Kay for his second extra-base hit

of the first inning. Devers led off the second with his 23rd home run. Santana hit a two-run double that made it 11-0 after two.

Santana slugged one to deep right-center in the fourth inning and the Red Sox got their sixth home run of the game when Hernandez recorded his sixth multi-homer game and 500th career hit in the sixth inning.

Cavan Biggio homered for the Blue Jays during a four-run rally in the fourth inning. Teoscar Hernandez, Randal Grichuk and Bo Bichette also drove in runs.

Mets 15, Reds 11, 11 innings

In Cincinnati, Jeff McNeil hit a tiebreaking single in the 11th inning. Kevin Pillar added a three-run homer and New York went deep seven times in a win over Cincinnati.

Michael Conforto connected twice, including a solo shot that capped a five-run outburst in the 11th as the Mets handed Cincinnati its fourth straight loss to open the second half.

New York shook off a season-high four errors — all in the first two innings.

While manager Luis Rojas served the first game of his two-game suspension, James McCann, McNeil, Home Run Derby champ Pete Alonso and Dominic Smith also homered for New York in a game that lasted 4 hours, 45 minutes.

Tyler Naquin drove in four runs for the Reds with five hits, including a tying single in the 10th.

Anthony Banda (1-0) was the winner in his Mets debut.

Orioles 6, Rays 1

In St. Petersburg, Fla., rookie right-hander Spencer Watkins gave up one run in six innings as Baltimore tied a season high with its third consecutive win.

The 28-year old Watkins (2-0) scattered four hits, walked two and struck out seven.

Cole Sulser, Paul Fry and Tyler Wells completed the five-hitter.

Ryan Mountcastle, Anthony Santander, Kelvin Gutierrez, Austin Hays and Pat Valaika drove in runs in the win.

Ryan Yarbrough (6-4) allowed six runs and eight hits over 5 2/3 innings. He was 5-0 in his previous 12 outings dating to April 30.

Cardinals 8, Cubs 3

In St. Louis, Dylan Carlson homered and drove in four runs, Jake Woodford pitched 5 2/3 strong innings in his first start of the season, and St. Louis beat Chicago.

Woodford (2-1) struck out six and didn't allow a walk. He also pitched out of a bases-



loaded, no-out jam in the fifth. John Gant pitched the final 2 1/3 innings of relief as the Cardinals ran their winning streak to three games.

Carlson and Paul Goldschmidt hit home runs in the sixth, the fourth time this season the Cardinals hit back-to-back homers.

Alec Mills (4-3) struck out six over four innings, but 28 of his 81 pitches came in the Cardinals' four-run fourth.

Athletics 4, Angels 1

In Oakland, Calif., Ramón Laureano hit a three-run homer in the seventh inning as Oakland got on the board once Shohei Ohtani left the mound and beat Los Angeles.

Laureano connected against Steve Cishek (0-1) after Ohtani left following six scoreless innings and eight strikeouts.

All-Star Matt Olson hit his team-leading 24th homer in the eighth for Oakland.

The A's managed just three hits through Ohtani's six innings, but Cole Irvin (7-8) hung tough shutting down the Los Angeles lineup over seven scoreless innings.

Brandon Marsh hit an RBI single in the ninth against Lou Trivino, who finished for a two-inning save.

Astros 4, Indians 3

In Houston, Yordan Alvarez snapped an 0-for-22 slump with at two-run homer, helping Houston beat Cleveland.

The Astros were up by 1 with one out in the fifth inning when Alvarez connected off rookie J.C. Mejia (1-5).

Alvarez also doubled and Michael Brantley added two hits to help the Astros to their second straight victory.

Houston starter Zack Greinke (9-3) yielded five hits and two runs in 5 1/3 innings. Ryan Pressly picked up his 17th save.

Franmil Reyes hit a solo homer and an RBI single for the Indians, whose two-game winning streak ended.

Mejia permitted seven hits and four runs while striking out a career-high eight in 4 1/3 innings in his eighth major league start.

Tigers 14, Rangers 0

In Detroit, Miguel Cabrera drove in five runs, including a bases-loaded double in a four-run fifth inning, and Detroit blanked Texas.

The Rangers have lost six straight, the last three by a combined score of 29-0.

Tigers starter Casey Mize was only expected to pitch three innings as the team tries to limit his workload. However, when he retired the first nine hitters, he came back out for the fourth, allowing one single. He struck out four. Joe Jiménez (4-1) got the win in relief.

Kyle Gibson (6-2) allowed eight runs on 10 hits and two walks in five-plus innings.

Akil Baddoo had a two-run homer, finished with four RBIs and scored three times.

Nationals 18, Marlins 1

In Washington, Jon Lester pitched seven scoreless innings and homered, Juan Soto hit a pair of home runs and Washington routed Miami.

Lester (3-4) allowed six hits while striking out seven without a walk. Lester hit his fourth career homer and added a single for his fourth career multi-hit game.

Soto continued his torrid post-All Star game pace, going 3-for-4 with five RBIs and three runs scored. He's 10-for-17 (.588) with five homers and 11 RBIs in four games since the break.

Trea Turner drove in four runs with a homer and a triple and Tres Barerra hit his first

career homer for Washington.

Miguel Rojas had a home run among his three hits for the Marlins, who lost their third straight.

Ross Detwiler (1-1) started the bullpen game for Miami and was lifted with no outs in the second after allowing eight runs on seven hits, four of them home runs.

Diamondbacks 4, Pirates 2

In Phoenix, Caleb Smith pitched 6 2/3 stellar innings, Eduardo Escobar hit a two-run homer for the second straight game and Arizona beat Pittsburgh.

Smith (3-6) gave up two runs on six hits and two walks while striking out seven. Joaquin Soria pitched a scoreless ninth for his fifth save.

Chase De Jong (1-4) took the loss for the Pirates, giving up four runs over five innings. He walked two and gave up seven hits, including three homers.

The Pirates pulled with in 4-2 in the seventh after Ke'Bryan Hayes and Bryan Reynolds hit back-to-back RBI singles.

Pavin Smith and Josh Van Meter hit back-to-back solo homers in the second for the D-backs.

Twins 3, White Sox 2, 8 innings, 1st game White Sox 5, Twins 3, 2nd game

In Chicago, rookie Gavin Sheets hit a game-ending three-run homer in the bottom of the seventh, giving Chicago split in a doubleheader with Minnesota.

Minnesota won the opener in eight innings, but the White Sox avoided a sweep when Sheets turned on a 3-1 fastball from Twins ace José Berrios and drove it deep to right for his fifth home run. Ber-

^{AP}
Boston Red Sox's Jarren Duran (40) celebrates with Enrique Hernandez after Hernandez hit a home run during the sixth inning of a baseball game against the Toronto Blue Jays on Monday, July 19, 2021, in Buffalo, N.Y.

rios (7-4) entered the seventh having allowed only two hits — solo shots by José Abreu and Yoán Moncada — before Brian Goodwin led off with a single and Berrios hit Andrew Vaughn with a pitch.

A wild pitch moved the runners up, then Sheets connected to win the game for Chicago.

Aaron Bummer (2-4) pitched a scoreless seventh for the White Sox.

Mitch Garver homered in his first two at-bats of the nightcap.

The White Sox have won eight of 10.

In the first game, Nelson Cruz hit a sacrifice fly in the eighth after tying the game with a solo homer in the sixth. Jorge Polanco added an RBI single in the eighth as Minnesota ended a three-game losing streak.

Tyler Duffey (2-2) pitched a scoreless seventh, working around two walks, for the win.

Tim Anderson homered for the third straight game and extended his hitting streak to a career-high 16 before sitting out the second game.

Giants 7, Dodgers 2

In Los Angeles, Buster Posey and Wilmer Flores hit back-to-back homers in the first inning, Thairo Estrada had a key double in the seventh and the San Francisco Giants defeated the Los Angeles Dodgers in the opener of a pivotal four-game series between the NL West rivals.

Posey had two hits and drove in two runs in his first game back after he missed two weeks due to a bruised left thumb. Estrada — who is taking over at shortstop after All-Star Brandon Crawford was placed on the injured list due to a strained oblique — came through with a two-run double in the seventh inning as the Giants broke open a close game by scoring four times.

Max Muncy and Justin Turner homered for Los Angeles, which was held to four hits. San Francisco pitchers had retired 11 straight Dodgers until AJ Pollock led off the ninth with a single.

With the win, the Giants expanded their lead to two games over the defending World Series champion Dodgers. San Francisco has been in first place since May 31.

Jarlin García (2-2), the third of six San Francisco pitchers, got the win by striking out two in 1 1/3 innings.

History awaits: Bucks try to focus with championship chance

MILWAUKEE (AP)—High atop the outside of Fiserv Forum—way above even a leaping Giannis Antetokounmpo's reach—blares the Bucks' post-season motto.

"HISTORY IN THE MAKING" it reads, a sign and a situation that's now impossible to ignore.

And yet, that's exactly what the Bucks are trying to do.

They can indeed make history Tuesday night as Milwaukee's first NBA champion since 1971. But the Bucks have to resist thinking about what happens if they beat the Phoenix Suns in Game 6.

"It's hard, because you work so hard to be in that moment, which is tomorrow," Antetokounmpo said Monday. "It's hard not to get ahead of yourself. But this is the time that you've got to be the most disciplined."

The Bucks have won the last three games to set up a potential party 50 years in the making.

Around 17,000 fans are expected inside the arena and the Bucks announced Monday that the Deer District has been expanded to allow up to 65,000 fans to stand shoulder-to-shoulder outside. Barricades line the sidewalks around the arena and restaurants within walking distance were contemplating how to get employees into and back home from work through the anticipated crowds.

It's a scene that couldn't have happened for much of this season that has been played during the coronavirus pandemic. The Bucks only began permitting a limited number of fans at games in February, nearly two months after the season began. Even when postseason play started in May, capacity was capped at 9,100, a little above 50%.

Whatever the number is Tuesday, it will sound a whole lot louder if the Bucks are lifting the Larry O'Brien Trophy.

"But we got to focus, we got to do our job," Antetokounmpo said. "Then they can do their job celebrating at the end. But we got to do our job first."

The Suns are excited, too.

That's how Chris Paul said they feel, despite blowing a 2-0 lead and facing elimination for the first time in this postseason.

"Something that Coach and everybody has been saying: If you went to the beginning of the season and said we had a chance to be where we are right now, would you take it? Absolutely," Paul said.

"And we get a chance to determine the outcome. It's not like the game is going to be simulated or somebody else's got to play. We get a chance.



Milwaukee Bucks forward Giannis Antetokounmpo (34) reaches for the ball during the first half against the Phoenix Suns in Game 5 of basketball's NBA Finals, Saturday, July 17, 2021, in Phoenix.



The comeback fell short when Jrue Holiday stripped Devin Booker and fired an alley-oop pass to Antetokounmpo, but coach Monty Williams saw a resilience that will be needed now more than ever.

"For us to be able to cut it to one point, you know that was the thing that stuck out to me and gives our staff and team a lot of confidence as we go into this Game 6," Williams said.

Booker has scored 40 points in two straight games, something Antetokounmpo earlier in the series and only five other players have done in the NBA Finals. Yet as good as he's been, the star guard said he has to be even better in Game 6.

"We all know what's at stake and what's on the line," Booker said. "Everybody is going to have to give a little bit more because what we have done hasn't been enough."

Just two years ago, the Bucks had the league's best record and were two wins away from their first NBA Finals since 1974 before losing a 2-0 lead in the Eastern Conference finals against Toronto.

That disappointment helped build a Bucks team that doesn't waver when it's down. Milwaukee was behind 2-0 to Brooklyn in the second round and is now a victory away from overcoming that deficit again.

The Bucks ended all three series in this postseason on the road. Now they have the chance for the biggest one of all in their building, knowing that won't make it any easier than their other clinchers.

"It is funny, you want to treat it the same as any other game, but at the same time, it is what it is. It's a close-out game of the finals," center Brook Lopez said. "But I definitely think we can take from our other experiences in the playoffs."

"And one thing, you know, if you look all of them, obviously we know that the other team is just not going to roll over and stop playing. They are going to fight till the last second. We have to be ready to come out at our best."

We control our own destiny. So I think that's the exciting part about it."

If the Suns do win Tuesday,

they would bring the series back to Phoenix for Game 7 on Thursday.

To do so, they will have

to call upon the fight they showed in Game 5, when they gave themselves a chance to win in the closing seconds

after the Bucks had pounded them for 79 points in the second and third quarters to open a double-digit lead.

Suns remain upbeat as they face elimination game on road

MILWAUKEE (AP)—The Phoenix Suns say they aren't feeling sorry for themselves after squandering a 2-0 lead in the NBA Finals and moving within one game of elimination.

They realize they're still two wins away from capturing the first league title in franchise history.

Phoenix coach Monty Williams said Monday the Suns are showing the same spirit that helped them get this far in their first playoff appearance since 2010. The Suns have lost three straight to the Milwaukee Bucks, who can close out the Finals on their home floor on Tuesday.

"I saw yesterday when we got on the plane, the guys had the same look in their eyes," Williams said. "When I came down this morning for meetings, guys were down there talking, having breakfast. It was pretty cool to watch. So those kinds of losses are hard, but if you're going to do anything big, you have to overcome those kinds of hards."

"I don't know of any team that has won a championship that has just kind of strolled into it. So our guys, we have talked about that, the deep playoff hurts that happen and the ability to bounce back from that."

A big difference between Phoenix and Milwaukee is that the Bucks have experienced plenty of recent playoff heartbreak.

Milwaukee was the league's top overall seed in 2019 and 2020 but failed to reach the Finals either year. While Chris Paul and Jae Crowder possess plenty of playoff experience, teammates including Devin Booker, Deandre Ayton and Mikal Bridges made their postseason debuts this year.

"The message is stay together, fight each and every possession and embrace where you are right now," Crowder said.

The Suns face the unenviable task of having to win at Milwaukee, where the Bucks own a 9-1 postseason record. The Suns posted an NBA-best 24-12 road record in the regular season—including a win at Milwaukee—and are 6-4 away from home in these playoffs.

That gives the Suns confidence they can bounce back, even from a loss as painful as the 123-119 Game 5 defeat.

"Coming into the next morning probably after a loss, the locker room, you probably wouldn't know that we just lost a game, a Game 5 at home," Ayton said. "You

know, just how we walk in and everybody's just so full of spirit and energy, it's insane."

RIVALS TO TEAMMATES

Booker is competing with Milwaukee's Jrue Holiday and Khris Middleton for an NBA title, but they'll become teammates as soon as the Finals end when they head to Tokyo to join Team USA for the Olympics.

"I think we'll be fine," Middleton said. "Right now, we haven't said a word to each other. I'm sure we won't be best buddies during Team USA, but we'll be teammates, for sure. We'll be on the same path, talking basketball X's and O's, trying to get the job done. That's what being competitors is all about, but also what being a teammate is all about."

Booker agreed.

"It's never personal between who you're going with, unless lines are crossed," Booker said. "Those guys aren't that type and I would never go that way with them, because there's a high respect level for each other. I think that's why we're in the position that we're in right now."

HEY, I KNOW THAT GUY

Bucks forward Giannis An-

tetokounmpo said he noticed LeBron James was sitting courtside for Game 5 but didn't speak with him.

"It doesn't really matter who—it might be my mother sitting courtside—I don't engage while I'm playing," Antetokounmpo said. "I just try to focus as much as possible. But this is crazy. This is a great story. This is not a promo. The night before, I was watching 'Space Jam' on HBO. I was watching 'Space Jam,' and there he goes in the courtside seat."

James is the star of "Space Jam: A New Legacy," which premiered over the weekend.

VOLUME SHOOTING

The Suns averaged 37 3-point attempts over the first two games of the Finals as they built a 2-0 lead. That dropped to 24.3 3-point tries over the last three games.

Phoenix went 13 of 19 from beyond the arc in Game 5.

"I think with the team and the capabilities of the shooters that we have on this team, that we need to generate more 3s," Booker said. "Obviously, they're switching a lot and staying home on shooters. So there's just a way of figuring it out."

'Phenomenal' turnout for this year's fishing tournament

By MARK RABAGO

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Saipan Fishermen's Association president Tony Scragg said the way the 37th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament turned out couldn't have been scripted any better.

He said after a 2020 that saw SFA scale down the event due

to the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual fishing tournament returned with a bang this year.

"I would like to say thank you to each and every participant who joined our 37th annual tournament. We had 90 entries and that is phenomenal. Of the 90, we had 17 from Guam and we thank them for coming down and the

LSU

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in Jacksonville as a senior assistant swim coach. During his tenure, he was awarded with several promotions that led to him being named the head swim coach and aquatics director in February of 2015.

Throughout his career, Sakovich has coached 10 USA Olympic Trial qualifiers and over 45 USA Swimming National qualifiers, both at the senior and junior level. He was named the 2016-17 Coach of the Year by the National Federation of High School Coaches.

In 1997, Sakovich earned his bachelor's of science in recreational sciences at the University of Florida while he began his career in coaching for the Clearwater Aquatic

team. He recently received his master's degree in education, sport coaching and pedagogy in 2019 at the University of Ohio at Athens.

Before becoming an Olympian, Sakovich donned the colors of the CNMI in various regional and international competitions, such as the Micronesian Games, South Pacific Games, Pan Pacific Games, and FINA World Championships. With his impressive credentials, he earned a spot on the University of Florida swim team. At UF, he got All-American honors and national titles both in the pool and open water races. While swimming in collegiate ranks, Sakovich also brought home a bronze medal for Team USA from the 1995 Pan American Games and represented the U.S. in the 1996 Pan Pacific Championships.

GOLD'S

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when you feel like quitting because you will like the end result which will become your greatest reward," she said.

Santos was also the leader in the number of points awarded for visiting Gold's Gym for boot camp, workouts, and classes.

Gold's Gym Saipan's general manager Tyce Mister asked, "Is it a coincidence that the winner of most points also won overall? We don't think so."

He added that their mission is to help people achieve their potential through fitness.

"One motivator is the Gold's Gym Challenge that began earlier this year in March. Gold's Gym Saipan in partnership with PHI Pharmacy, Michelob Ultra, Brabu Pharmacy & Wellness Center, and Turn Key Solutions offer a huge 'congratulations!' to the participants in the 2021 Gold's Gym Transformation Challenge," he said.

Mister added that this year's transformation challenge had a very high completion rate. "Forty-two challengers began the 12-week transformation challenge journey and 35 completed the challenge. This is a transformation contest, but 99% of the participants had the goal to lose weight. As a group, these 35 challengers lost over 388 lbs! This is an average of 13.8 lbs per person. Around the waist, the group lost an average of 4.4 inches with a total of 152.5 inches

lost around the waist."

Gold's Gym hosted a boot camp throughout the competition that was led by Aaron Tomokane, NASM certified personal trainer.

Tomokane emphasized, "This is a transformation challenge and not a weight loss competition. We want everyone to be safe. We encourage body fat loss when necessary to be healthier, but we want to see lean body mass (muscle) either maintained or even increased as part of the transformation challenge. It is very difficult to lose fat body mass and at the same time maintain or even gain lean body mass."

The transformation challenge is grateful to Tomokane for his role in completing the before and after photos and measurements.

Pomaikai Aldan, one of the other participants of the transformation challenge, shared this secret, "I ate very clean cooked foods and as much as possible avoided fast food and fried food."

Additionally, Aldan offered some advice to others with the goal of weight loss, "Weight loss is very hard for many people so the best advice I can offer anyone is to commit fully to your health. We only get one body so we should do our best to treat it great. Take baby steps to reach your goals because all that matters is that you reach your goal, not how fast you get there. Health and exercise is a lifetime marathon not a short term sprint." (PR)



COVID-19 Task Force for all the work they put in to make this happen," he said.

The SFA official said the 2021 fishing derby also marked the first time Flying Proas took the part in the competition, which successfully bridged the Marianas' rich seafaring tradition.

"We had a historic event with four traditional canoes and we are so proud of 500 Sails participating. We organize this event for all the fishermen, fisher women, and the youth of the Marianas. The turnout was fantastic and makes us very proud and ready to do it again each and every year," said Scragg.

SFA member and awards ceremony emcee Curtis Dancoe also recalled an interesting exchange at the Smiling

Cove Mariana ramp with one of the winners in the July 10-11 event.

He was pertaining to billfish category winner *Defiance* captained by Rufin Inos Jr. and manned by deckhands Tero Takai, Vince Inos, Asap Ogumoro, and the irrepressible Jack Salas.

"A beautiful Tundra was sitting there and I said 'sorry sir, you're blocking the ramp. And he says 'it's OK I'm Jack Salas' and I said 'aren't you supposed to be fishing?' and he said 'I'm actually waiting for the boat to come because I have all these things that I need to unload.' And so they go out at 10 o'clock and go back at less than 4 hours later with a 327-lb marlin to take first place," he said as the crowd erupted

in cheers during the awards ceremony last July 12 at the poolside of Aqua Resort Club.

Scragg also extended his gratitude to the sponsors of the annual competition, which despite the pandemic, still stepped up to the plate and agreed to sponsor the 37th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament.

"On behalf of all the members of the Saipan fishermen's Association, I would like to say thank you to all the sponsors, government agencies, support staff, and volunteers. They are all a huge reason why our tournament was so successful! We hope to see everyone next year for our 18th Annual Mahi Derby and the 38th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament. Congratulations to all the

Japanese PM Suga says world should see safe Olympics staged

TOKYO (AP)—The world needs to see that Japan can stage a safe Olympics, the country's prime minister told sports officials Tuesday ahead of the Tokyo Games.

Tens of thousands of athletes, officials, games staff and media are arriving in Japan amid a local state of emergency and widespread opposition from the general public.

Events start Wednesday—in softball and women's soccer—two days ahead of the formal opening ceremony

of an Olympics already postponed a year because of the coronavirus pandemic.

"The world is faced with great difficulties," Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga told International Olympic Committee members in a closed-door meeting at a five-star hotel in Tokyo, adding "we can bring success to the delivery of the Games."

"Such fact has to be communicated from Japan to the

rest of the world," Suga said through an interpreter. "We will protect the health and security of the Japanese public."

He acknowledged Japan's path through the pandemic toward the Olympics had gone "sometimes backward at times."

"But vaccination has started and after a long tunnel an exit is now in our sight," Suga said.

The prime minister's office said Monday more than 21%

MARK RABAGO
Saipan Fishermen's Association president Tony Scragg, second from left, poses with skipjack trophy sponsor Pacific Rim Land Development, LLC and its president Keith Stewart and one of the winners of the category during the awards ceremony for the 37th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament held last July 12 at the Aqua Resort Club poolside.

winners. Please visit our website sfacnmi.com, Facebook page, and our Instagram page for all the videos and pictures of this year's event. Fish on Marianas!"

The 37th Annual Saipan International Fishing Tournament was sponsored by the following: Marpac Budweiser, Mobil Oil Marianas, TSL Foundation/TanHoldings, Triple J Enterprises, Pacifica Insurance Underwriter, Inc., CIC Insurance, Docomo Pacific, Roil Soil, Pacific Rim Land Development, Paradise Dental Spa, Coca-Cola Beverage Co. (Micronesia), Inc., Atkins Kroll Saipan, Matson Inc., D&Q International Distributors, Naked Fish, Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council, Muzik Production, WSTCO, MINA, Micronesian Marine, Marianas Coffee, Johnny's Bar & Grill, Herman's Modern Bakery, Century Hotel, Fishing Tackle & Sporting Goods, Joeten Motors, Inas' Kitchen, and Bank of Saipan.

of Japan's 126 million population has been inoculated.

Health experts in Japan have questioned allowing so many international visitors for the games, which end on Aug. 8. There will be no local or foreign fans at events. The Paralympics will follow in late August.

Praising vaccine manufacturers for working on a dedicated Olympic rollout, IOC President Thomas Bach singled out Pfizer BioNTech for "a truly essential contribution."

NMIVA

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full schedule of volleyball for high school. We have indoor this year because we are just moving into indoor. So, this is going to get them ready for the season. So we're really excited that we have a full capacity here," added Quan.

For his part, Rabago said this phase of the training will now allow NMIVA to identify players that they could develop and hopefully would one day form the CNMI national volleyball team.

"Last month we're just trying to cover some skills and we saw some numbers so this

time we're trying to break them down by age group. We're taking a look now at skill level. Kind of assess where their skill levels at because last time was such a huge turnout we didn't have a chance to see everybody. What we're doing now is just putting names together for the federation just to maintain and keep track of them and keep in touch to continue to push this program," he said.

After Day 1 of the session Monday night, Rabago said it's abundantly clear that the future of CNMI volleyball is in good hands.

"Actually there's talent and there were a few girls [that im-

pressed] and we ended up having a couple of the younger girls stay with the older group. It was kind of nice to see them kind of matchup," he said.

The Team Guam head volleyball coach also admitted that CNMI and Guam volleyball terms have some differences and that's what he's trying to overcome in his third stint supervising the volleyball camp on Saipan.

"It's different because the system that I kind of run at home is way different than from here. Also, the use of the language is a whole lot different. So I'm trying to get them to buy into what I speak of the game and hopefully they

can try and emphasize it. If not, you know, that's up to the coaches that I work with the past couple of months to instill it into the players," he said.

Rabago is also excited about the sample practice he will conduct for hopefuls of both the CNMI women's and men's national teams.

"I'll be running a session with them and just talk about different types of attacks that they can try and run. It will be some type of offensive system. I'll just watch. And again, this is a whole new federation. It's nice to see the athletes [find out about] the federation they would be involved in the next 4-8 years."



**Renfro's slam
leads 6 HRs as
Red Sox rout
Blue Jays**

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**'Phenomenal'
turnout for this
year's fishing
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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

LSU names Jon Sakovich associate head coach

By **MARK RABAGO**
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

What do NBA greats Shaquille O'Neal and "Pistol" Pete Maravich have in common with the CNMI's very down Jon Sakovich?



Last week, the former Olympian and CNMI Sports Hall of Famer was named an associate coach of the Louisiana State University swimming team and so like the Big Diesel and the all-time NCAA career scoring leader, Sakovich is now an LSU Tiger.

"I am very excited for this opportunity to coach at LSU

and work with some of the best student-athletes in the U.S. LSU has a great history in NCAA athletics and in the classroom and I am honored to continue these traditions," said Sakovich in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

Sakovich, the son of fellow CNMI Sports Hall of Famer and Saipan Swim Club co-founders Bill and Jean, joined LSU swimming team head coach Rick Bishop's first staff at LSU



Sakovich

for the 2021-22 season. He will serve as an associate head coach alongside Steve Mellor and comes to LSU after serving as an assistant swim coach at Lakeside Aquatic Club in Flower Mound, Texas.

"I look forward to working with the head coach and the rest of the staff on the shared vision and goals of a successful program geared toward developing excellent student athletes and winning championships," he said.

His parents, meanwhile, couldn't be prouder of their first-born, who first learned to swim in the small hotel pools of Saipan before moving on to Guam in high school, where he represented the U.S. territory in the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

"He has been trying to get into college coaching for a

few years now. That was one reason he was leaving Bolles School. We feel proud, he's gone further than either Jean or I. We are still coaching a club here in Hilo, and I will also coach high school if we have it this semester. We are happy for Jon and I guess will have to follow LSU now, not only Florida (Jon's alma mater) and UCLA (Bill's alma mater)!" said Bill in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Jon Sakovich's bio at the LSU website, before arriving at Lakeside, Sakovich spent 19 seasons at the Bolles School, similarly to Bishop, who spent four years at the private college preparatory day and boarding school.

Sakovich began his stint

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NMIVA starts camp for high school players

By **MARK RABAGO**
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High school players are taking centerstage this time as the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association last night started its weeklong volleyball camp for youth 14-18 years old at the Agape Gymnasium along Middle Road in Gualo Rai.

The five-day camp is being facilitated by FIVB Level III certified coach and Oceania Sports Education master educator Mike Rabago, who NMIVA contracted to hone the CNMI national volleyball teams as well as jumpstart the islands' grassroots development program.

NMIVA president Somia Quan said each day the clinic is from 5pm to 8pm and bro-

ken up between ages 14-16 (5pm-6:30pm) and 17-18 (6:30pm-8pm). Girls are Monday and Thursday, while boys are Tuesday and Friday. She added that Wednesday is a sample practice for hopefuls to the CNMI women's national team (5pm-6:30pm) and CNMI men's national team (6:30pm-8pm).

"Today is the first day of a weeklong clinic that we have for girls and boys high school. Girls are Monday and Thursday and boys are Tuesday and Friday and we've broken it down further into age groups. We have 14-16 from 5pm to 6:30pm and 17-18-years-olds from 6:30pm to 8pm," she told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview Monday night at the



Agape Gym.

NMIVA is trying to build on the success of the series of clinics conducted by Rabago.

"Last clinic we had kind of a two-day open camp where you could sign up or walk in and we had an overwhelming success with 91 participants. The turnout was pretty good," said Quan.

The only difference this time around is rather than have all the players bunched up in one camp, NMIVA has divided them into boys and girls and age groups to improve the level of learning for the players.

"This time we're trying to actually break it down to smaller groups to have a better quality instruction with coach Mike so for the 17-19-year-olds we have about 14 and the 14-16 earlier we had about 16. The boys are full from 14-16 at 25 and about 19 to the 17-18," she said.

Like the previous months' camp with Rabago, NMIVA wants local volleyball players to learn the sport's latest skills and techniques.

"Once again it's mainly about the technique, drills, trying to get our high school youth develop the right skill-sets to be successfully in the court. As you know [the Public School System] has a pretty

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MARK RABAGO

FIVB Level III certified coach and Oceania Sports Education master educator Mike Rabago conducts a volleyball clinic for girls high school volleyball players Monday night at the Agape Gymnasium along Middle Road in Gualo Rai.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants of the 2021 Gold's Gym Saipan Transformation Challenge pose for a group photo during the awards banquet last Saturday.

Ruechoway, Santos win Gold's Gym Saipan Challenge

Paul Ruechoway and Emily Santos topped the 2021 Gold's Gym Saipan Transformation Challenge with the former shedding 34 lbs and 9" around the waist and the latter losing 19.6 lbs and 6" around the waist.

Ruechoway and Santos were awarded \$500 each during the 12-week fitness campaign's awards banquet held last Saturday. A total of 42 took part in the challenge which awarded over \$5,000 in cash and prizes.

"This entire journey has completely changed my life. I've become the healthiest I've ever been in my life and I feel confident and secure in my own body. Joining Gold's Gym is one of the best decisions I've made in my life. I've

found a new hobby and made great friends," said Ruechoway, who was also won the most inspirational essay award.

Santos, for her part, said she didn't let a defeatist attitude

get the better of her in winning the female category of the transformation challenge.

"Always believe in yourself

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Winners Paul Ruechoway and Emily Santos are the winners of the 2021 Gold's Gym Saipan Transformation Challenge.